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Agricultural.

THE COMING STATE FAIR.

On an invitation from Secretary Sterling, of the State Agricultural Society, we paid a visit to Jackson, to look over the preparations that are being made for the accommodation of exhibitors and visitors at the annual exhibition of the Michigan State Agricultural Society. On our arrival we found President Phillips, Secretary Sterling, Treasurer Dean, John Gilbert, Chairman of the Business Committee, Wm. Ball, J. M. Sterling, L. H. Butterfield, and W. H. Cobb, members of the Executive Committee, registered at the Hibbard House. After dinner the party adjourned to the fair grounds, and were taken in hand by Mr. John Gilbert, who has personally superintended the erection of the buildings, and the putting of the grounds in order, and a thorough examination made of the work already done, besides discussing the plans submitted by Mr. Gilbert for the completion of the unfinished portion. The whole of the buildings which were on the grounds needed a great deal of repairing, while many new buildings had to be erected.

On entering the grounds, to the right of the gate, stands a dwelling house which has been occupied by the care-taker of the grounds. This is being entirely remodelled in the inside, and a piazza built around it on the outside, and is to be used as a ladies' reception parlor.

Passing along we came to the Secretary's office, which has been fixed up on the inside, and adjointed to a much needed coat of paint. Adjoining the Secretary's office is the President's headquarters, the society's lunch room, office of the Business Committee and police headquarters, all of which have been put in a good state of repair.

Pomological Hall, which will also contain the display of vegetables and dairy products, has been finished throughout, and had a general overhauling.

The main building has also been floored and the space devoted to the fine arts, has been ceiled on the sides and painted a drab color, which will be appreciated by exhibitors. Mr. A. J. Brown, of Detroit, has notified the committee that he will have on exhibition 160 elegant oil paintings from Philadelphia, which will no doubt add largely to the interest of this department.

The exhibitors of poultry at this fair will find that their department has received special attention from Mr. Gilbert. He has erected a building 24 by 100 feet, well roofed, floored throughout, and amply lighted. The coops are arranged in three tiers on each side of the building, and contain 50 in a tier, making 800 coops in all. There is a wide aisle between the coops, and also a passage way in the rear so that the poultry can be cleaned, fed, and watered from the rear.

The band stand used on the fair grounds in Detroit, and which was used by President Hayes while addressing the people, has been removed to Jackson, and will probably be further honored in being used by Gen. Grant at the coming fair. Adjoining this stand is the President's headquarters, and for the first time in the history of the State Fair, there appears to have been a man at the head of affairs who understands the needs of newspaper men under such an occasion. A handsome building has been erected, with desks and tables enough to accommodate 40 or 50 persons. It is fitted up with wash-rooms, water-closets, telephone, and will also have telegraph connection.

There has always been more or less complaint from parties exhibiting carriages, that sufficient protection was not afforded them in case of wet weather. This year they will have no reason to complain on that score; ample provision has been made for them. Two buildings 24 by 100 ft. each, have been erected, one open on the sides,

and the other enclosed, the latter having shutters along the sides, which can be opened and closed at pleasure. Both buildings have good roofs and are floored throughout.

The implement men have not been forgotten, and a new building, 50 by 100 with cement roof and floor, has been erected inside of the track, for such implements as do not require power for their exhibition. Half of the space inside of the track will be devoted to the display of agricultural implements.

Machinery Hall will receive the necessary repairs to put it in the best possible condition for the exhibition.

The cattle and horse stalls have had a general overhauling, and they required a great deal, as every second partition had been removed, and had to be replaced. A number of new stalls have been built, and also a barn which will accommodate forty stalls. There will be stabling for 400 horses and stalls for 400 cattle.

The sheep and hog pens are having floors placed in them and the roofs repaired, which will put them in better shape than they have ever been. Enough pens are being added to those already on the grounds for the exhibition of 350 sheep and the same number of hogs.

Mr. Gilbert, as chairman of the Business Committee, has devoted a large portion of his time to the planning and superintending of the work which has been done at Jackson, and we feel assured that when the exhibitors come to see the pains he has taken to get everything in the best possible shape, with the means at his command, they will agree with us in saying that the right man has been put in the right place.

FARMERS' PICNIC.

Although the harvest has not been as bountiful this year in all respects as in many seasons, the occasions for thanksgiving are still legion. Mixed husbandry is so generally practiced in southern Michigan that many consecutive seasons of meagre harvests might be experienced without any dread results becoming noticeable. The immense crowd that attended the annual meeting of the Farmers' Picnic Association of Hillsdale and Lenawee counties at Beardsell's Landing, Devil's Lake, on Wednesday the 17th inst., proves this view of the case. This idea of a festive and social gathering of the hardy yeomen and their families after the hard labors of the harvest field were over, originated in a small way in the town of Wheatland in the year 1873. The practice was a taking one, and each year the crowd grew larger and larger until a regular picnic association was formed, officers chosen, and rules and fees adopted to institute good order and defray the expenses for music, grounds, etc., so the pleasant amusement and pastimes at the lake are indeed intellectual treats in the way of good music and speaking.

This meeting was the ninth annual gathering of this association, which now embraces sixteen of the most thriving towns in these two counties, and which has flourished for nearly a full decade, and was in point of interest and attendance a grand success. As early as 4 o'clock the crowd commenced to gather, and at 11 o'clock over 1,200 teams had passed the gate. Nor were the jaunty phaetons, the comfortable family carriages, and the compact single rig the only outfits in the line; all sorts of vehicles, anything and everything on wheels were pressed into service. Long before noon the beautiful grove of many acres was a mass of moving humanity, with happy hearts and merry voices, that had given themselves up to the enjoyment of the day. Some were lounging, some swinging, some croqueting and some quilting, etc. The large Lake View House, with its 175 feet sloping front, balconies and stoops provided with chairs and other comforts, its commodious dancing hall, bowling alley and dining-rooms, was swarmed with people, and it resembled a regular bee hive. Men and women, young and old, flitted hither and thither with a purpose and aim characterizing every movement. The Michigan Farmer reporter ventured inside and found every one happily enjoying themselves. It is now dinner time. No one will deny that a well spread table conduces to, I may say compact, cheerfulness, sociability, appetite, relief and health, and is notably elating in its influence. If this be true, how much more striking an appearance and more effective influence a long row of tables 1,500 feet in length, enough to seat 3,000 or more people, laden with tempting viands, such as roast pig and turkey, cakes, pies, puddings, etc. here and there interspersed with beautiful bouquets, must make upon the animated throng crowding such festive boards.

The discussion of the pleasing viands being over, the intellectual exercises of the day were in order, and their interest can be calculated from the following programme of exercises:

Reading of minutes by Secretary Parker, of Addison.

Prayer, by Rev. Mr. Lyon, of Napoleon.

Rendition of "America," by Glee Club and audience.

Music, by Napoleon band.

Welcome address by the President, Hon. Bradley Shaw, of Dover.

Hon. J. K. Boies, of Hudson, was then introduced by the President, who addressed the audience. By statistics the speaker showed that the occupation of farming engrossed the attention of more men than any of the so-called professions; and maintained, that as our facilities for manufacturing were meagre, having, in fact, nothing but our soil, we must take good care of that soil; any agencies or means that would make rural life more attractive or desirable should be heartily endorsed. Musical societies should be encouraged; social gatherings multiplied; shade trees along the highways, and around the farms, should be set out, and the district school house, in this respect, not overlooked—a beautiful grove for a playground would be pleasing adjunct. Mr. Boies paid a glowing tribute to the men and women who had succeeded in reclaiming that portion of the United States which President Madison once heartily denounced. "Not one acre in a thousand of the land in Michigan," said our Chief Executive, "is fit for cultivation." Behold, what a change has been wrought by intelligent labor—free labor! The opinion of an eastern wool buyer was quoted, relative to the comparison of Michigan with Ohio wool—the capitalist claiming that Michigan wool was finer and of a more even fibre than that of the Buckeye State; and yet the latter took the lead in price. Mr. Boies threw out some practical hints, and urged the farmers to look into the matter, ascertaining, if possible, why wool in Michigan did not bring as good a price as in our sister State. He urged the young men, as a precautionary measure, to stay on the farm—the average age of farmers being 65 years, while other artisans rarely reached 60. Morality and intelligence had more influence and greater weight than wealth, as was evinced in many positions of trust—notably that recently given to James A. Garfield. Boies' touching tribute to our stricken President was listened to by a tearful assemblage, and to absolute silence by the sympathy awakened in the hearts of all, on account of the dense, dark cloud, closing in upon us as a people—the pall of death falling, long delayed, upon our chieftain. A fitting return of thanks to the Lord of the harvest, and Mr. Boies closed his remarks.

The gleeful sang another patriotic piece, and Hon. Chas. Michely was introduced. He was glad, he said, that government officials and the President of the United States had made greater mistakes even than the pioneers of 45 years ago, as his prospecting party had very little hopes of any portion of the State of Michigan farther back than the third tier of counties—the rest being a wilderness of swamps and morasses. Intelligent agricultural labor had made a wonderful transformation—the land reclaimed was owned by the farmers, and the proprietors represented the controlling power; having a majority, as regarded numbers, the votes should be cast for the parties embodying power, intelligence and morality. Various monopolies were to be feared. Railroads were all right, but they should be second to the nation. The Standard Oil Co., telegraph companies, etc., were encroaching on grounds not tenable. The farmers—being the workers—should make the laws regulating all monopolies. Mr. Mickey advocated a broad education for our children, liberal agricultural education for all who would accept it—and deeming the occupation of farming above all other pursuits, thought the time not far distant when the relative position of farming could be demonstrated thus: AGRICULTURE, medicine, law, etc. He advocated reading sermons in restones, books in the brooks, etc., and paid a glowing tribute to the women who were in the work of pioneering, and long years ago laid down the burdens of life. Mr. Mickey's remarks were quite extended, but so seemingly fell upon pleased and willing ears. The gentlemen speak to a class to which he worthily belongs, and ably represents in council or forum.

After music by the band, the election of officers was in order, which resulted as follows:

President.—P. W. Lewis, Medina.

Vice-President.—Mrs. M. J. Allen, Rollin.

Secretary.—J. U. Harkness, Rollin.

Treasurer.—Stephen Lombard, Rollin.

Directors.—Rollin, Sylvester Bonney; Hudson, Walter Thompson; Medina, Wm. James; Cambridge, C. R. Kilbury; Dover, J. W. Judson; Seneca, John C. Porter; Rome, Martin Pouchet; Somerset, W. W. Morris; Wheatland, Horace Reley; Pittsford, F. M. Wadsworth; Wright, C. H. Gersuch; Adams, Edw. Jackson; Jefferson, Moses Rumsey; Woodstock, Foss Parsons; Noreau, John Nutton.

SEED WANTED.—Mr. A. H. Mills, of Prairieville, Mich., inquires about the "White Jennings" wheat. Has any read of the Farmer ever grown it, and if so, has he any seed for sale? Mr. A. H. Smith, of Stark, Wayne Co., would like to know where he could purchase some Scott seed wheat, raised in this State. He can be addressed as above by those who have any for sale.

THE Washtenaw County Agricultural Society have decided to hold their fair at Ann Arbor, commencing October 4, and continuing until the 7th. John N. Bailey of Ann Arbor, is Secretary, to whom inquiries in regard to the fair may be addressed.

TO MICHIGAN BREEDERS.

The announcement of the Chicago Fair Association in our advertising columns this week is worthy of the attention of the breeders of this State. It is the first exhibition of the Association, which is an organization incorporated under the laws of the State of Illinois for the purpose of holding an annual live stock show and agricultural fair in the city of Chicago. It has a paid up capital stock of \$100,000, and has entered into a contract with the Chicago Driving Park Association by which it has secured the use of the elegant grounds of the latter organization for this purpose for a period of seven years. These grounds embrace eight acres within the city limits, and adjoining Central Park, one of the most beautiful parks in the city, and have been fitted up at an expense of about \$140,000 with elegant buildings and amphitheatres for the accommodation of visitors; with stalls, sheds and pens for horses, cattle, sheep and swine; and with other buildings for the exhibition of agricultural products, fruits, flowers, etc., to an extent that it is believed is superior to any other fair ground in the United States. The President of the Association is Mr. J. H. Sanders, editor of the *National Live Stock Journal*, and with him are associated a number of Chicago's most enterprising citizens. With such men as these at the head, and a city like Chicago to back them up, this fair must prove a great success. The management say in their announcement:

"It is scarcely necessary to say that the premiums will be paid in full, regardless of gate receipts; and that, in so far as it is within the power of the management to bring about such a result, the awards of prizes shall in every case be made solely upon merit, without regard to locality or ownership. The men who have assumed the financial responsibility of this enterprise, and who are entrusted with its management, have no personal ends to serve, except to build up a grand live stock show and agricultural fair in the city, and to this end their best efforts will be directed, without favoritism or partisanship as between rival breeds or rival interests."

The premium list has been arranged on a most liberal basis, as will be seen by reference to the advertisement of the fair, footing up \$50,000 in cash, and we hope to see some of the "plums" come into Michigan. The fair opens Monday, September 12, and closes on Saturday the 17th, giving exhibitors plenty of time to ship their stock back to Jackson in time for the State Fair.

The premium list includes all classes of horses, cattle, sheep, swine, poultry, agricultural implements and machinery, vehicles, farm, dairy and household products, fruits, flowers and vegetables, honey and bees, household manufactures and woman's work, all, in short that goes to make up a great agricultural fair.

Besides these, liberal premiums are offered for trotting and running races, steeple chases, equestrian contests and various interesting events.

Low railroad fares and rates have been obtained by the managers, and everything will be done to make this fair one of the most popular of the great shows of the country. Full particulars may be learned from the premium list, which can be had by addressing the Secretary, Mr. D. L. Hall, 116 Monroe Street, Chicago.

A LOST FORTUNE IN SHEEP.

A comical story of a lost fortune where in sheep play an important part is told in the *Argonaut*, and briefly as follows recounts what "might have been." On the day of his birth the father presented his son with a sheep, which was put out to double every four years on the farm of a neighbor, who guaranteed against all loss, casualty and accident. To illustrate: One fine-wooled Merino sheep entitled the owner to have returning to him in four years two merchantable, fine-wooled Merinos, of proper age, good health, and equal in all respects to the sheep originally received. Four sheep in eight years, eight sheep in twelve years, sixteen sheep in sixteen years, and thirty-two sheep in twenty years and so on. At the age of twenty the young man fell in love and foolishly traded his 32 fine Merinos to a shrewd Scotchman for his pretty daughter and a silver Lepine watch with cylinder escapement and full jeweled. The son of the man who thus sold his birthright for a mess of pottage now complains of the loss of the fortune which now would be his father's, still living at the age of 92, had the doubling up been allowed to continue until the present time, estimating that no less than 8,644,008 sheep would be his legitimate increase of the solitary animal presented upon his father's natal day. He then estimates the increase during his own life, had he been able to take charge of the possible flock which would have been his but for a fair face and a silver watch, and sums up as follows: "Now, I respectfully submit that it demands from me a degree of filial regard to overlook this most serious mistake of my parent; and if, in view of the crosses he has been compelled to bear through a long life, from the fact of being my father, I might be disposed to not treasure against him a personal resentment, I am certainly authorized to contemplate the transaction

of my grandparent in selling us a silver Lepine watch, with cylinder escapement running on jewels, for eight thousand two hundred and eleven millions, five hundred and sixty-six thousand five hundred and ninety-two fine-wooled merchantable Merino sheep, as a very questionable transaction."

HOPS IN OAKLAND COUNTY.

Oakland, Aug. 22, 1881.

As to the present condition of the hop crop: Some

Horse Matters.

How Horses are Made Stylish.

The N. Y. Times "gives away" some of the secrets of Training Schools for horses, and shows how jockeys manage to transform an ordinary roadster into a high-stepping carriage horse, with a thoroughbred air about him. To a reporter of the Times a veteran veterinary surgeon said:

"The great thing is to make a horse look like a thoroughbred. I don't suppose you know what a thoroughbred is. He is a horse with a pedigree, with blue blood in his veins, of good stock for many generations. Any judge of horses can tell one in a minute. I will tell you some of his characteristics. His neck, to begin with, is beautifully curved. He holds his head up, with his chin drawn in toward his breast when in harness. He has delicate legs and feet almost like a deer. He is a succession of lines of beauty. His neck is not set into his body, as if a carpenter put it there, but joins it gently and gracefully with a long sweep. His body immediately behind the fore legs, comes down almost to a point. After a slight curve in the fore part of his back, his back is almost straight all the way to the tail. He lifts his feet high when he walks. His tail falls with a graceful arch, and hangs like a festoon at the back. Look at one of the fine thoroughbreds you see on the race tracks. Just in front of the hind legs you can span him with your arms. But measure that horse around the body, just behind the forelegs, and you will find he is as big around as an elephantine dray horse. Here lies his strength and staying power. His heart and lungs are large and work with great power. When he comes in from a long race his lungs work like a mill. This is not because he is exhausted—it is a sign of health, strength, vitality. His ankles are hardly bigger than your wrist, but take a section of bone out of the ankle of a thoroughbred, and a section of the same length out of the ankle of a cart horse; although the latter may be twice as large in circumference the piece out of the thoroughbred will weigh the heavier. The thoroughbred's bones are solid, compact, and heavy, while the bones of the common horse are spongy and weak. It is on the same principle that some gentlemen with wrists like a woman's are stronger than gigantic laborers. This is the perfect horse. He is found in his best estate in Arabia. The Anglo-Arabian horses rank next. All our finest thoroughbreds are Anglo-Arabians."

"Now, what the horse dealers have to do," the surgeon continued, "is to take a common horse and make him look as much like a thoroughbred as possible. The pica horse stretches out his neck. He drags his feet along; his tail hangs down straight. His back, instead of being a straight line, sags down towards the tail. He is a succession of untidy angles. If he is sound and healthy, he is worth, perhaps \$200 in his natural state. The dealer takes him in hand, spends perhaps \$50 on him, and makes him worth \$500. A good part of the work is legitimate training. Some of it, perhaps, is cruel. I will describe it to you and you may draw your own conclusions. I do not do this, because it does not pay me in my business, but I am well posted on the way it is done."

"We will say," continued the doctor, "that I am a horse dealer, engaged in the business of 'improving horses.' A country horse comes in and I buy him. He is awkward, gawky, and countrybred. He is, in short, compared with city horses, just what an awkward backwoodsman is compared with a polished gentleman. First of all, I fatten him up, give him good feed, and have him carefully groomed twice a day to make him smooth. It is a new experience for him, and he likes it. It is like a boarder in a Water street boarding house going to a first-class hotel to live. It makes him good natured and happy. No matter how sleek and fat and shiny he may be, no gentleman would have him in front of his carriage as long as he carries his nose out in the air and his neck is straight like a piece of board. He must be made to arch his neck and to pull in his chin. I put a 'mouthing iron' on him. This is a solid iron bar, like a heavy bit, with rings on the ends. At the middle of it three heavy tassels are fastened so they will rest on the top of the tongue. This weight of iron makes him lower his chin and draw it in toward his breast. I put a surcingle on him, put straps through the rings in the ends of the straps to the surcingle, and brace them up tight. This makes the horse arch his neck. He must do it whether he wants to or not. Two or three weeks of this treatment will get him in the habit of holding his head properly. It is painful to the horse, of course. Sometimes they make a fuss, and I have known them to faint with the weight of iron on their tongue. But they generally stand it very well. The mouthing-iron is removed only while the horses are feeding, and the feed box is arranged in a short stall that the horse has to keep his chin drawn back to reach the oats. You can always tell a horse that has been treated in this way, for it drives up the glands on the side of the head, toward the ears, and swells them. They remain somewhat distorted permanently."

"This makes the head and neck question all right. But the horse still drags his feet along the ground like a man in loose slippers. I send a ten or less of straw into a clean part of the stable-yard and have it spread loosely over the yard till it has perhaps two feet deep, but loose. While the mouthing-iron is still in the horse's mouth, I have one of the groomers take him out into this straw and walk him about for three or four hours every day. This soon gets him into the habit of stepping high, for he lifts his feet well up to get clear of the straw. While one groomer leads the horse another goes behind and turns the straw up with a pitchfork to prevent it from packing. This process, singularly enough, has the same effect upon the horse in a limited degree, that it has upon the groomer. It teaches him to step high, and does him no harm. If the owner of the horse should see him after he has gone through two or three weeks of this training he would not recognize him."

"The front end of the horse by this time is all right. Now for the other end. What looks more ungraceful than to see a horse with his tail held down close against his flanks like a cow or a mule? He must be taught to hold his tail out and give it a graceful curve. Formerly this was done by nicking the tail on the under side, so that it became sore, and the horse then held it up because it pained him whenever it touched his body. But Mr. Bergh considered this cruel, as it undoubtedly was, and put a stop to it in this city. As soon as the head and neck are right the horse is fastened in a stall, with a pulley in the ceiling immediately over his tail, a cord is put through this pulley, with a weight of ten or fifteen pounds on one end. The other end is fastened to the upper part of the horse's tail. The weight keeps the tail elevated, and gives it a pretty curve. It does not answer to do this while the mouthing-iron is at work, for the unusual sensations at mouth and tail at the same time would fret him too much, and, perhaps, injure his health. There is some little risk in the tail improvement. The horse will fight hard to whisk his tail out of the fastening, so it has to be strapped pretty tight. If he pulls too hard on it the strap may cut and the sore become irritated. I have known horses to die of lock-jaw from this process."

"These are the principal methods employed," the surgeon concluded, "to turn country boobies into city swells. Thousands of horses are so trained every year. There are many other devices—so many, indeed, that it would take me all day and half the night to describe them. It is an easy matter to give the horse a shiny appearance. Take any horse, trained or untrained, thoroughbred or common stock, feed him well, groom him well and often, and you may use his sleek side for a mirror. Look out for that grey mare, she's a little ugly. Good morning."

Horse Notes.

The entries for the Grand Rapids races are numerous, and all indications point to an interesting and successful meeting.

In the great Doncaster St. Leger stakes, which are to be run over the Doncaster course in September, Lord's horse is entered, and in the betting stands at 40 to 65. Peregrine, the favorite, has been withdrawn.

Messrs. PURCELL & STALEY, of Lansing, have purchased a bay filly, two years old, from R. P. Pepper, of Kentucky. She is by Passant, dam Sally Warfield by Toronto. They also purchased from the same parties the chestnut filly Impulse, three years old, by Magic, dam by Alexander's Abdallah.

The following story comes from Buffalo during the recent meeting there. Midnight, who was trotting for a \$3,000 purse, became demoralized after taking the first heat in 2:15, and in the second broke badly and appeared to be wild. His shoes were removed, but this did not relieve the animal. A gentleman who was interested in the race, suggested that he be given a quart of coffee. This was objected to at first, but finally was administered to the horse. After drinking the coffee the horse recovered, and took the next two heats and the race easily. Coffee is known to be an antidote for various poisons, and the question naturally arises, was Midnight dosed to prevent his winning? It looks very much like it.

Farm Matters.

Thick or Thin Sowing of Wheat.

The Germantown Telegraph advocates this sowing of wheat for reasons given below:

"The success or failure of the wheat crop is frequently owing to those inscrutable laws of growth, which at the right moment induces a plant to do its best in the way that pleases us most, and which we generally refer to as a favorable season; but we are compelled to ascribe it largely to the thinning-out of the weak plants by the frosts of the winter, thus leaving the rest more room to fully develop themselves, as they always will if they have a good chance."

"In regard to thick and thin sowing of wheat, and whether drilling in the seed is an advantage or not, has of late been considerably discussed. It seems strange to us that any one should have the remotest suspicion that there is any advantage in the old-fashioned hand-sowing over a drill; but there are the figures. The product per acre was against the drill sown wheat, and this not for one single season, but for several successive seasons. We have seen in many instances of wheat-sowing within the last two years how this result may be exactly so. But it is not because the wheat was sown by drill, but because double the quantity per acre was used as seed that ought to have been put in. In a large number of cases the sprouts were to be seen coming up in the rows 'as thick as hair on a hog's back.' If any remark be made about the thick sowing, we are told it will be thin enough before spring; the winter will weed them out. But the weeding-out comes from the very fact of thick sowing; the plants are rendered weak by their struggle with one another, and the struggle with the winter is too much for them. Instead of the young plants almost touching one another, as we generally see them do, no plant should be closer to another than half an inch, if we would have the best results; and there is little danger of such plants getting killed in the winter, at least far less danger than from winter sowing thick."

"As to danger, there will always be some, for frequently the plant finds itself in a place where water stands—a place where wheat never cares to be. It easily kills in such situations; and cheat, which rather likes damp places, takes advantage of the condition to sprout and grow, and astonish those who do not look deeply into things, by the transformation. Even in the very best conditions the plants will often suffer from too much moisture. A heavy rain may fall, saturating the surface soil, and a frost immediately follow. In this case when the thawing time comes, unless well-covered by snow, there may be losses. But even here the advantages are all on the side of the plant which has been

room to grow and to develop itself perfectly without hindrance from its neighbor. We see from all this why the wheat was improved by the thinning the winter gave it, and we see how it may be that once in awhile drill-sown wheat may be worse than hand-sowing. It all centres in an argument in favor of comparatively thin sown wheat."

Selecting Cows.

L. S. Hardin, in Wallace's Monthly says: "In order to treat this subject in its broadest sense, it is necessary to consider the cow from several points of view, including not only her general individual characteristics, but also her blood and breeding qualities, which will carry us over a pretty broad field, and one by one means easy to explore when we come to consider, not only the conflicting claims of rival breeds, but the extreme diversity of opinion that exists among breeders as to what points constitute evidences of merit in the cow. One man wants her blazoned with osseous, while another sees no virtue in them. Another wants her of solid color, while still another must have some white on her, and nearly all insist upon it that she must have marks of yellow about her, either on the hide, horn, or tip of the tail. A crumpled horn is held in high regard by many, while several breeds of fine milkers rarely have such an appendage. Even in point of size there is great diversity of opinion. Breeders of Holsteins and Shorthorns insist upon large carcasses, while the Ayrshire and Jersey breeders clamor for the economy of the little cow."

"Again, the question often comes up, and as far as any from solution, shall the ideal cow give a large mass of moderately rich milk, or a moderate mess of very rich milk? These are undoubtedly questions of great importance, yet the authorities are nowhere agreed upon them. What are we to do, then, when we come to such minor points as at present are shaking the mental powers of the Jersey cattle clubs even to their foundation? Should a cow have a long tail or a short one, and what should be the color of her tongue? Should she have one or two entrances into the belly by the large veins of the udder? Then, again, should the face be straight or dished, narrow or broad between the eyes?"

"Alas! these mighty questions still puzzle the fancy breeders, because cows with each, all or none of the fancy points are constantly reaching the highest points of performance, thus showing that none of them are requisite to success. Indeed, if in a common dairy, where the owner knows nothing of these points, but makes a success of his milk or butter, the herd be carefully examined without reference to their points, it will be seen that in the majority of cases the points cut no figure in the elements of success. As the trotting-horse breeders' aphorism stands, 'They go in all shapes,' so do they milk in all forms, and it is a mere matter of fashion and fancy breeding that fosters these notions among breeders."

"So soon as some definite organization is formed for testing cows, we look to see these fancy traits wings and leave the breeders to return to their mutton, which really is the absolute performance of the cow, which, being connected by pedigree with the performances of the past, will teach them to breed with the certainty of producing large milkers that always follows the actions of rational selection. We only wonder that all this nonsensical hubbub should have been allowed to occupy the columns of the agricultural press so long as it has, without calling forth the condemnation of both readers and publishers. There, however, seems to be a decided disinclination among breeders to bring their various breeds to actual and practical test. This disinclination may arise from the fact that when the test is put, many of the breeds, as an absolute necessity, must go to the wall."

"It is so much easier to boast and wrangle over minor and indifferent points of merit, points based simply upon individual opinion and taste, where the fancy of the writer can have full play, than to hold themselves down to simple, solid, undulterated facts. Everybody, even the beginner in breeding, knows the fashions, and has at his fingers' ends all the so-called arguments in their favor, but when it comes to the plain hard facts of dairying, those that require long years of hard labor to learn, all the fun of the thing has fled; even the scant knowledge that makes the tyro so proud in his opinion, has lost its charm. The dairyman of long experience knows that there are many qualifying circumstances to govern each condition of the business which makes it extremely hard to come to a definite opinion, even upon the most trivial points connected with any one of the three great divisions of the trade, producing milk for market—cheese or butter-making."

Foreign Cheese.

From France we have the Roquefort, the popular after dinner cheese, with its greenish veins, not at all attractive to those who first see it. Roquefort cheese is made from the milk of sheep and goats, principally from that of the former, which are of the celebrated Larcze breed, noted for their unusually large udders. The cheeses are ripened in vaults constructed in the limestone caves and fissures which are found in the rocks that overhang the village of Roquefort. The peculiar characteristics of this singular kind of cheese can only be obtained by ripening in these vaults. Each cheese weighs about five pounds, and is worth 35 cents per pound. France also produces many other kinds of fancy cheese, among which are the Camembert, Pont l'Eveque and fromage de Brie, which are small, soft, creamy cheeses of the consistency of thick paste, and are great aids to digestion when taken after a heavy dinner. Camembert is imported in boxes of five dozen pieces, and wholesales at \$3.75 per dozen; Pont l'Eveque is worth \$3.50 per dozen, while fromage de Brie, which comes three in a basket, brings \$2.25 per piece. Neufchâtel, commonly called Bondons, are worth 10 cents per piece, and are similar in appearance to the so-called Neufchâtel cheese made here, and with which almost every one is familiar, owing to its similarity to pot-cheese. France also manufactures,

in the department of Doubs, on the boundary line to Switzerland, a Gruyere cheese, similar to the delicious Swiss product, but the quality is inferior to the latter. We notice that last March the cheese merchants of France held a meeting at Pontarlier, where it was decided to adopt the same methods of manufacture as those of the Swiss, and hereafter not to accept inferior and badly made cheese as a merchantable article.

From Switzerland we get the genuine Gruyere or Swiss cheese, which is usually three feet in diameter, and weighs about 150 pounds, and is imported in tubs containing from 250 to 400 pounds, selling in a wholesale way at 18 cents per pound. The small, round Edam cheese, in shape and size like a cannon ball, with a thick rind, of a bright red color on the outside, comes from Holland and is worth \$11 50 per case of six. It is in great demand for vessels about to sail on long voyages, as its smooth, tough rind resists the attacks of insects and the action of the atmosphere. Holland also produces the Gouda or 'pate grasse,' which in appearance is like an English dairy cheese, and, in cases of six cheeses, brings 30 cents per pound. Gouda is a Dutch cheese, and is also from Holland, and worth 34 cents per pound, while another Holland cheese, Leyder, or Cominje kaas, is only valued at 24 cents per pound.

Parmesan cheese, the only kind proper to cook with macaroni, is imported from Italy in tubs containing four or five large, flat, round cheeses, which are called loaves, and worth 34 cents per pound. Italy also sends us Roman (fromaggio Romano) cheese at 25 cents, Strachino di Gorgonzola at 32 cents, and Caccio Cavallo di Napoli at 30c per lb. The demand for the different kinds of foreign cheese is in about the following order, and the first named being the most cared for, and so on in gradually lessening quantities in the order named: Gruyere, Edam, Roquefort, Brie, Camembert, etc., Stilton, Parmesan and English Cheddar, etc.

What are known as American fancy cheeses are Pineapple, Little Champion, Young America, Victoria and English Dairy, all of which are in increased demand in this country.

There are numerous imitations of foreign cheese made in the United States, as, for instance, Swiss, made in New York, Wisconsin, and Wheeling, W. Va., sells for 18 cents per pound; Limburger, made in Wisconsin, New York and Watertown, Mass., wholesales at 17 1/2 cents per pound; Munster, 20 cents per pound; fromage de Brie, \$1 25 to \$1 40 per piece; Neufchâtel, 34 to 40 cents each; cream cheese, \$2 50 per box of one dozen, and fromage d'Isigny, \$3 30 per box of six pieces. All of these cheeses are excellent imitations of the imported, and as they are made by the same processes as abroad, and by foreign workmen, they will in time no doubt supersede the imported article; in fact, Limburger is made here so cheaply and in such perfection that its importation has almost ceased, while some has already been exported to Europe.

This industry of making new styles of cheese is only in its infancy in the United States, but our increased foreign population, with their foreign educated tastes, have demanded the introduction of these goods here at popular prices, and consequently the attention of our people has been called to them. It is expected that the capacity of the factories now in operation will not be sufficient to supply the demand. In fact there are new factories already in process of building, and we learn of a new factory at Theresa, N. Y., that will cost when finished \$15,000, and is intended for the manufacture of Limburger cheese alone, the entire product of which, it is expected, will be consumed at home. There are, however, some foreign cheeses that have not been successfully imitated here, and they are Roquefort, Stilton, Parmesan, Camembert and others.—American Cultivator.

Trapping the Dogs.

Some time ago the Virginian reported numerous depredations by dogs upon the sheepfolds in a certain neighborhood in Bedford county, in which, in some cases, the farmers lost all their sheep. At the time, the names of the heaviest losers were printed, and the number of dogs killed approximated. Subsequently, a well-known farmer, who owns a large boundary of land in the same neighborhood, complained that a second raid had been made upon his sheep in which he lost nearly twenty, and indirectly indicated his opinion that a certain dog, belonging to one of his neighbors, who had positively refused to permit his dog to be killed in the previous general massacre, was one of the guilty ones, and asked that the dog be then killed. To this his owner vehemently objected, avowing that his dog had never touched a sheep, and threatening to visit consuming wrath upon any person who dared to trouble or rumple a hair on his ugly cur's worthless hide.

The owner of the slaughtered sheep merely remarked that it was "all right," and good humoredly said good-bye to the owner of the dog. Upon reaching home he had all the dead sheep hauled to a convenient spot and laid out in regular yard style. He then built a fence of rails about twelve feet high and about ten feet square at the ground, and gradually diminishing in dimensions until it was not more than five feet square at the top. He then retired to his home and awaited results, knowing that even a clumsy hound could climb the fence and jump into the pen, but that not even a grayhound could escape from it. The next morning, gun in hand, he visited the place and planted his bullet in the head of the obnoxious dog which the master had before refused to kill, and the remaining ones were then systematically and coolly dispatched. On the third morning he completed the roster of the dead, and found that it footed up forty-six dogs, including fifteen or twenty which had never before been seen in that vicinity. At last accounts the carcasses of the sheep and dogs were all lying in a confused heap, and it is said the bark of a dog in that neighborhood now would cure the most aggravated case of hereditary deafness.—Lynchburg Virginian.

How Thistles are Distributed.

In the N. Y. Tribune we find the following in regard to the dissemination of the much dreaded Canada thistle, which may not be generally known:

"In the discussion of Canada thistles some persons have expressed the belief that distribution is effected wholly by means of roots, or pieces of roots, carried in soil from place to place. Undoubtedly this is a fruitful source of distribution, and especially so in the towns and cities, where seed is brought in from the country to lay down grass plots, but one can often find plants in such isolated positions as to make it hard to believe that they did not originate from seed, and as in this section we are so unfortunate as to have an abundance of this weed, and as it is now to be found in all stages of flowering and fruiting, I determined to make some examinations of the plant. We must, in the first place, understand that what is usually called a flower is not in reality a single one, but a great number of very small flowers in a cluster or head. These heads I found to be of two sorts, one large and rounded, and the other smaller and stunted, with the top of the head flattened, these different shaped heads being borne on separate plants, each kind growing in patches separated some distance from the other."

"The plants bearing the larger and rounded heads are here far more abundant and robust than the ones bearing the small heads. The large heads, as soon as done flowering, wither and turn brown, as if parched from drouth. The office of these flowers seems to be the production of pollen (or the fertilizing dust, if you please), with which to fertilize the flowers in the small heads on the neighboring plants which produce seed (the large heads produce no seeds at all) but little or no pollen. As soon as the seed is ripe and ready for dispersion, these heads do not, on an average, contain more than 20 per cent of fertile seed, the remainder being abortive. A recent contributor to the Tribune expressed the opinion that fertile thistle seeds are not carried by the wind. I took a ripe head of one, and found that the fertile seeds, as soon as loosened from the head, sailed off quite as buoyantly as the sterile ones, providing the seed was fully ripe and had its tail expanded. As the number of sterile seeds is so much greater than of the fertile, one would, of course, find the former much the commoner, and further, it might happen that (as regards the Canada thistle) all the plants of a district produced one kind of flowers, when a few or no fertile seeds would be produced. From the preceding we may conclude: 1. That the Canada thistle has two forms of flowers. 2. That the larger flower heads produced no seed. 3. That the smaller flower heads (often pale pink or white, Wilson) do produce fertile seed, and that these seeds can be and are distributed by the wind."

Rust in Wheat.

The Toronto Globe says: "If one looks closely to the stubble in a wheat field he will find it covered with what might, at first sight, pass for weather stains. These lines on the stubbles are made up of spores of the rust-plant which remain there through the winter and start into growth the coming spring. The spores in fungi serve the same purpose that seeds do in higher plants. These brown spores germinate and produce a form of fungus on the leaves of the barberry bushes called 'cluster cups,' because they appear as small cups and are grouped in clusters, usually upon the under side of the leaf. The cups on the barberry leaves are full of small spores, which are carried by the wind to the wheat plants, where they grow and produce the orange colored streaks (rust) upon the leaves and stalks. After the yellow rust has passed away, the dark form of spores comes, and the circle of life of the plant is complete. A word as to the damage which the rust does to the grain upon which it grows, and the way in which it is done. The fine threads of the rust plant run through the substance of the leaves and stems of the wheat plant, and take up the juices in much the same way that the roots of an ordinary plant run through the soil and take up its food solutions. The fine threads may be looked upon as the roots of the fungus, the only ones it has, and they collect its food. This food goes to form a vast number of small orange-colored spores upon the ruptured surfaces of the stems and leaves. The matter which the wheat plant had gathered from earth and air, and would have used in making good plump grain, goes into the fungus spores, and the rust-struck plant produces only shriveled grain and a poor quality of straw."

Agricultural Items.

A CANADIAN farmer has thirty acres of beans which were put in by seed drill. By leaving out the tubes the drills have been run thirty inches apart, which is just a right distance for cultivating with a scuffle. As many beans can thus be put in a day as any other grain, which is a great advantage over the old hand-planting.

The early threshing of wheat is not always a wise economy. The sweating of wheat is best done in the mow, or stack, and when in this stage should never be disturbed; but in the haste of both threshers and farmers, the grain is often threshed when the straw is very damp, and unless great care is taken to hold the bundles on the cylinder, much waste is apparent, and it is to be doubted if as good flour can be obtained from this wheat as could have been obtained by later threshing. Farmers should insist upon experienced men tending to machines, rather than novices, who only know that the wheat is to be run through the machine. A tyro at the business will often allow many bushels of grain to be carried over into the stack unthreshed.

The fence is a costly fixture. Illinois is said to have ten times as much fence as the whole of Germany, and it is claimed that Dutchess County, New York, has more than France, Germany and Holland. A few years since in South Carolina the improved land was estimated to be worth \$30,000,000, the fences at the same time had cost \$15,000,000. The annual repair is a tenth of this. A calculation made some eight years since placed the cost of the fences in the United States at \$1,800,000,000. Nicholas Riddle, more than

forty years ago, said the fences in Pennsylvania had cost \$100,000,000. In Ohio they cost more than that sum, and in New York only a few years since they had cost \$144,000,000. Some day probably fences will disappear, and boundaries will be marked with fruit and shade trees or neat hedge rows.

The New York Times and the New York Times have been having a little controversy over the statement made by the Times that the only perennial clover was the white, the *Sim* maintaining that red clover is perennial also. The Times comes to the front with facts as follows: "The fact is that while red clover dies out the second year; yet if it seeds two years in succession and the clover is left to ripen its seed, there will be yearly a new seeding of the ground, and the clover will remain as if it were perennial, while in fact there is a new alternate crop coming on every year. This happens always in rich ground, where clover may be cut for hay for many years if the aftermath is left for seed or is pastured. There are many plain proofs of this fact, and have one now before me. A field of several acres, seeded four years ago with clover and timothy, was cut for hay twice the second year, so that the clover had no seed upon the ground. Last year there were here and there a few plants of clover among the timothy, and the present year there are none to be seen. Some years ago a field sown with clover alone was cut for hay and for seed and then left, that this perennial plant (according to the New York Times) might grow a year or two longer. In the spring the ground was bare, although full of roots, and the old clover remained brown and dead on the surface."

Avoid Shams.

And humbugs. Use no medicine only what you know to be reliable. Your druggist will tell you the only absolutely sure cure for Ague, Chills and Fever, is INGRAM'S AGUE PILLS. They are guaranteed to cure, or money refunded. Sold by all druggists, Swift & Dods, Agents, Detroit.

Ingram's Ague Pills prove a real blessing, and the people want them very much. REV. GEO. OLDER, East Dayton, Mich. I have cured one case of fever completely and helped another with but one box of Ingram's Ague Pills. One case the doctors had treated and done no good.

JAMES J. SHAYER, Alabaster, Mich.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

TO ALL HORSE OWNERS GOMBAULT'S

THE GREAT FRENCH VETERINARY REMEDY
 Prepared by J. K. Gombault, ex-Veterinary Surgeon of the French Government Stud.
 A Speedy, Positive and Safe Cure for Curb, Splint, Sweeney, Capped Hock, Strained Tendons, Founder, Wind Puffs, Mango, Thrush, all Inflammations, all Throat Difficulties, all Swellings or Ulcerations, all the Lamenesses from Spavins, Ringbone and other Bony Tumors.
 It is far superior to blister or cauterization in its beneficial effects, leaves no scar, and is as convenient as a liniment.
 Gombault's Balsam has been a standard veterinary remedy in France and Germany for over twenty years, and many of the best veterinarians and horse men of America have recently tested it with unfeigned success.
 We guarantee that one tablespoonful of Gombault's Balsam will produce an actual result that a whole bottle of any liniment or spavin cure mixture ever sold for \$2.00, or to be sent by mail for \$2.00. Every bottle of Gombault's Balsam is warranted to give satisfaction. Price \$1.50 per bottle. Sold by druggists or sent by express, charges paid, with full directions for its use, by
LAWRENCE, WILLIAMS & CO.,
 Sole Importers and Proprietors for the United States and Canada, 345 Superior Street, Cleveland, O. Send for circulars and testimonials free. 345-Superior Street, Cleveland, O. For Sale at Wholesale by Jas. E. Davis & Co., Detroit, and other druggists.

Cathartic Pills
 Combine the choicest cathartic principles in medicine, in a pleasant and palatable form, and are perfectly safe, certain, and uniform in effect. They are the result of the most scientific and practical experiments, and are the most effective remedy yet discovered for diseases, caused by derangement of the stomach, liver, and bowels, which require prompt and effective treatment. AYER'S PILLS are especially applicable to this class of diseases. They act directly on the digestive and assimilative processes, and restore regular healthy action. Their extensive use by physicians in their practice, and by all civilized nations, is one of the many proofs of their value as a safe, sure, and perfectly reliable purgative medicine. Being compounded of the concentrated virtues of purely vegetable substances, they are entirely free from calomel, or any injurious properties, and can be administered to children with perfect safety.
 AYER'S PILLS are an effective cure for Constipation or Costiveness, Indigestion, Dyspepsia, Loss of Appetite, Puff Swelling, Dropsy, Rheumatism, Headache, Loss of Memory, Numbness, Biliousness, Jaundice, Rheumatism, Eruptions on the Skin, Scalds, Dropsy, Tumors, Worms, Neuralgia, Cold, Gripes, Diarrhoea, Dysentery, Gout, Piles, Disorders of the Liver, and all other diseases resulting from a disordered state of the digestive apparatus.
 As a Dinner Pill they have no equal.
 While gentle in their action, these PILLS are the most thorough and searching cathartic ever used, and they relieve the pain which the bowels are inflamed, and their influence is healing. They stimulate the appetite, and give energy to the system, and operate to purify and enrich the blood, and impart renewed health and vigor to the whole system.
 Prepared by Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Practical and Analytical Chemists, Lowell, Mass.
 SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS EVERYWHERE.

COLORED MEDAL AWARDED
 The following is a list of the names of the persons who have received the colored medal awarded by the State of Michigan for their services in the war of 1812: *(List of names follows)*

KNOW THYSELF
 A SELLING PICTORIAL BOOKS AND BILLS. Prices reduced 25 per cent. National Publishing Company, Philadelphia, Pa.

STATE OF MICHIGAN.—At a session of the Circuit Court for the County of Wayne, held on the 20th day of July, A. D. 1881, in the City of Detroit, County of Wayne, and State aforesaid, on the 6th day of July, A. D. 1881, present, HENRY P. HARRIS, Circuit Judge, and ELIZABETH SNELL, complainant, vs. GEORGE P. STANLEY, defendant. It satisfactorily appearing to the Court that said defendant is a non-resident of the State of Michigan, on motion of Sylvester Larned, Clerk of the Court, and on the oath of said Sylvester Larned, a duly sworn affidavit was filed herein within six months from the date of the filing of the complaint, and it is also further ordered that within twenty days from this date said defendant shall cause to be published in the Michigan Farmer, a newspaper printed, published and circulated in the State of Michigan, continued once in each week for six successive weeks, a notice in English and French, to the effect that he has been summoned to appear and answer the bill of complaint filed herein within six months from the date of the filing of the complaint, and it is also further ordered that within twenty days from this date said defendant shall cause to be published in the Michigan Farmer, a newspaper printed, published and circulated in the State of Michigan, continued once in each week for 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TO THE
SCRIBERS

Horticultural.

SPRING BULBS.

Americans are apparently growing to be more and more flower loving people; but unfortunately for the most effective results of this evidently growing tendency, the horticultural seems to be decidedly of a perfunctory character; and so far, usually becomes negative mainly with the advent of spring. Owing largely, no doubt, to this fact, an extensive class of flowering plants, which, when planted, become at once the most effective floral attractions of the season, remain comparatively unknown; and they must be planted, if at all, in the autumn. We refer to the present is the best time for preparing the ground for the purpose, and we wish also to disabuse the minds of our readers of the very common impression that there is something occult or mysterious about the successful treatment of these beautiful harbingers of spring, so commonly known in horticultural parlance, as spring bulbs.

The number of plants to which this title is applied is very large; but the cream of the list falls within a very narrow compass. Indeed a most effective and satisfactory result may be secured with only the Tulips, Hyacinths, and the several classes of Anemones, a full set of which will extend the season of bloom well through the spring, and even into the summer. Coming into bloom as they do, very soon after the snows of winter disappear, and displaying their beauty while the general landscape is still bare and bleak; they may very properly be planted with a sunny exposure in the garden, in the turf of the lawn; and, if in front of the windows of the residence, they often prove an attractive object, while they are yet little to invite a lounge in the garden proper, and while the forests, shrubs and shrubbery have not yet donned the green of spring.

Where such a plantation is contemplated, a warm, rich, sandy, dry soil will be most satisfactory, and the spot should be protected against the cold, bleak winds of spring, which will be likely to injure seriously the beauty and durability of the bloom, and if partially shaded from the sun when at its greatest heat, it will be much the better for the permanency of the bloom. The soil should be spaded and enriched, if needful, to a considerable depth, say twelve or eighteen inches, and if, or liable to bake or harden, a good mixture of sand, well worked in, will improve it. This may and should be done in August or early September. If manure is used, it should be thoroughly decomposed, and well worked into the soil. Crops or undecayed manure should never be used for this purpose, because it will be liable to contain the seeds of troublesome weeds, and also for the reason that the most important growth of such bulbs consists in root growth during the autumn, while such raw manures will yet be undecomposed, and possibly actually injurious to the roots and fractions of their leaves.

If bulbs are to be purchased for the purpose, be sure to order them early, and from a reputable concern, such as cannot afford to send out any but first class stock, and that they are in the ground as early as the beginning of October, thus affording them abundant time to get a firm hold upon the soil before growth is brought to a standstill by the cold. Well developed bulbs are highly important to the strength and copiousness of the bloom in spring.

When ready for the planting, the surface, about a spade's depth, should be thoroughly mellowed and leveled, and if of considerable width, the bulbs should be arranged according to height, the tallest being planted in the center, and the lowest towards the margin. Tulips and Hyacinths should be planted three and a half to four inches deep, and if space is abundant, six inches apart, each way—closer if ground is rich or space limited. Crocuses may be two and a half to three inches deep, and two to four inches apart.

Although these bulbs are abundantly hardy, and even when in bloom, seem to be little for the cold, or even for the occasional snows of spring, they will be the better for a winter covering of mulch, of such material as forest leaves or straw, if to be had free from the seeds of weeds, which must, however, be removed very early in spring before the growth of the weeds is liable to be injured by the process. The bloom of such bulbs will be past, and the foliage of most of them so far decayed that almost any of the low growing plants may be either sown or transplanted among them after they shall be done with the season, and thus the attractiveness of the bed be maintained throughout the summer. The less hardy annuals will be most profitable for this purpose, since the seeds of such will seldom vegetate the ensuing spring.

T. T. LYON.

North Haven Pomological Society.

The South Haven *Standard* reports a small attendance at the last meeting of the North Haven Pomological Society, which was held at the house of E. M. Taylor, near South Haven. President Linn and the view-committee, consisting of Messrs Edgell, Hely and Loveday, made a tour of inspection through the grounds, and upon their return made the following report, as given by the *Standard*:

"Mr. Edgell said that with such a large variety of fruit, consisting of 70 apple trees, 300 cherries, one half acre of strawberries, 300 gooseberries, 1,000 red currants, 3,000 black currants and about 100 quince, he did not see how all could be so well attended to and kept in such admirable order. Everything was doing well except the sweet cherries and quinces. Between the two preceding extreme winters of wet and cold these trees have suffered very severely from the effects of frozen sap blight. A quart of salt sown around each quince bush in dry weather, brother Taylor said, would have done much good. The gooseberries, both Houghton and Downing, had lost a good part of their leaves, probably from the effects of the hot sun drying the roots, yet they had produced a fair crop of fruit this year.

D. C. Loveday next reported that the

apple trees were not pruned enough and had altogether too many inside limbs. He did not agree with the stake system for training grapes, although it might do for Delaware so as to cultivate both ways, but if Concord was 40 feet apart he believed there would be more fruit and less labor than on stakes. Some signs of yellow in peaches, but the orchard looked well, but did not agree with the pruning, the main limbs were too bare, there ought to be more limbs and there would be more fruit. The plum trees, also the sour cherries were looking very fine and were models of beauty, but no fruit this year.

"J. J. Atherly agreed with Mr. Loveday on the apple orchard, would prefer trellises for grapes and more pruning. A great mistake had been made in the choice of varieties of cherries, they should have had all sour cherries, principally Early Richmond. There is a good show of fruit in the north peach orchard, but it needs some fertilizing more than plowing in rye. As a whole this must be considered a very valuable fruit farm.

"The President remarked that he did not believe Mr. Taylor had many holidays, for it must take a great deal of labor to keep such a place, with all its variety of work, in order. Did not believe in trellises for grapes, as they make a vast amount of labor, and grapes should be cultivated both ways with a horse. He noticed the black currants were small and that there would be more fruit if half the bushes were taken out.

"Mr. Taylor made his defense by saying that nearly all the fruit on the place was planted by Mr. Bidwell before he purchased it, consequently the choice of, as well as the different varieties, were not of his choosing. The pruning had never been attended to until he came here. The peach trees were so low he could not get near them, being started from the ground. He said: I took knife and saw and slashed off the lower limbs and have cut off every limb in the way. Did not believe in low heads, from 3 to 4 feet was about right. The apple orchard had only been laid down to grass this year and was not injured. The cherries and plums were 15 feet apart with two rows of currants between, but the currants would have to be taken out on account of hunting the currants with shears. He did not consider his soil adapted to sweet cherries or quinces, it was probably too rich in vegetable mold. He believed a rich vegetable soil more liable to yellows in peach trees. Mr. T. concluded by saying that if a man had possession of any portion of the earth's heritage, it was his duty to keep it in respectable order and for his part he believed he had done some thing toward that end in removing old worm fences, old hedge rows of all manner of debris, and plowing and grading preparatory to seeding down to grass and he could mow it and keep it clean. He had expected to have some holidays in the fruit business, but alas he had found only work, and an everlasting fight with weeds, grass and insects, but no rest."

Ingham County Horticultural Society.

The Ingham County Horticultural Society held its regular monthly meeting at Lansing on Saturday, 13th inst., and in the *Republican* we find the following record of its proceedings:

The meeting was well attended, and opened with a paper from Dr. Marshall giving his experience of several years in raising plums. He is satisfied that the only remedy for the curculio is to shake them out on a sheet. This is sure, and he secures a full crop. He thinks people fail in the matter by not doing the work thoroughly. It should be commenced before the trees are quite out of bloom.

Ezra Jones spoke upon "Lessons from the berry season." He had raised strawberries for many years, and the present has been an exceptional season. After a hot day in the spring his plants appeared badly blighted; and when a good yield would have given him 100 bushels, he got but 30, and not over 13 of those were prime. The kinds least injured were the Sharpless, the Duchess, and the Kentucky. The Sharpless were somewhat protected through the winter by the snow. The Golden Defiance were not injured. He regards this as one of the very best berries. His Blackcap raspberries were badly damaged by the severe winter. The Red Turner is his best berry, but is too soft for safe marketing.

B. F. Johnson thought it was not the hot day that injured Mr. Jones' berries, but the cold of the winter. The germs were formed in the fall and were killed by the excessive cold. The wet weather of last season was unfavorable to production this year. His did the best where he cut out the old canes after harvest, letting the sun and air in upon the new canes. His Sharpless strawberries were a failure this year.

Dr. Marshall said he obtained plants of the Sharpless of Mr. Johnson in the spring, and had a fair crop.

Mr. Mann said he had a fair crop of strawberries where they were covered with snow.

Charles Gardner thought Mr. Jones' failure in strawberries had its origin not so much in either the heat or cold, primarily, as in the wet weather of last summer, which made the roots grow near the surface, and the plants were thus unable to endure dry weather this season.

Mr. Van Auker said he had neglected a bed, and it was overgrown with weeds and grass, but he had a good yield of berries.

The president asked if he would recommend that kind of cultivation. [Laughter.] Dr. Marshall said Mr. Van Auker's bed had been highly cultivated, and was in an orchard considerably shaded.

The Future of Horticulture.

President Barry, at a recent meeting of the Western New York Horticultural Society, made the following predictions regarding the future of horticultural interests:

"After several years of depression I believe we shall witness a more general horticultural progress throughout the country than has been seen before, even in the most prosperous times. The shipment of American apples to Europe is destined to be immense; but if our producers and forwarders desire to secure the best results for themselves and the consumers, they will at once determine upon a thorough system of selecting and packing. The California growers seem to have attained great perfection in this; we saw last autumn in New York, grapes and pears as fresh, sound and beautiful, after the 4,000 miles journey, as when first placed in the packages. But consignments to Europe are complained of, and so are doing injury to the trade. Yet it is easy to send apples of fine quality and well packed by rail and steamer there, and even back again if desired as a test, in perfect order. Trees to yield merchantable fruit, must be kept in vigorous and healthy condition. A fruit tree shows neglect very quickly. In the pear garden, to lessen the chances of blight, we slackened off in both cultivation and manure. The result was, in two years, one-half the crop was culled, and the trees, instead of making stout shoots twelve to eighteen inches long, made scarcely any growth at all. Similar results attend

neglect of other fruit trees. The thinning of fruits while small is profitable and necessary. Our own practice is to thin twice, or even three times. When one-half or three-fourths of the crop is fit only for the cider mill or evaporator, and will not sell for more than five or ten cents per bushel, the orchard becomes a very poor investment. There is no lack of new varieties, and we are glad to see them so numerous. We want better apples, pears, plums and cherries than we have yet. Great success is attending the work of hybridizing and crossing. Who will yet give us an apple combining the vigor and productiveness of the Baldwin with the delicious aroma of the Northern Spy? Or a pear as good as the Bartlett or Anjou, and proof against blight? The hybrid character and good qualities of Rogers' hybrid grapes are now acknowledged, and Ricketts and others are occupying the same field with great success, while others still are producing crosses between our native sorts, and the results bid fair to become one of the most remarkable triumphs of American pomology. The work of the society will never be done, because of the boundlessness of its field, and because the population is ever changing, and fresh demands for information will come in as regularly as the year rolls round."

A Dessert Pear.

Concerning the Doyenne d'Ete pear, J. M. McIninch, of Nissouri, Ont., says: "The Doyenne d'Ete is the most profitable variety of pear I grow. The fact of its being so, however, is not so much due to any merits it may possess as to exceptional circumstances. It is the earliest good pear we have, ripening about the first of August, a time when in this section of the country fine fruit is rather scarce, strawberries, cherries and other early fruits having gone by, and fall pears, plums, etc., not yet being in the market. The tree is a fair grower, and although it cannot be classed among the very hardy sorts, still it can be grown successfully throughout a large part of Ontario. It bears abundantly when quite young, either as a standard or dwarf, but except when a small tree is wanted for the garden I see no inducement to grow it as the latter. A larger quantity of fruit can be grown with less expense on standards. The fruit is of small size, but as a dessert pear it ranks first quality. When ripe it is of a bright yellow color, and the best specimens are usually shaded with red. Those who are growing pears for family use should plant a tree of this variety—probably one will be sufficient. So long as it is grown in small quantities as a market variety, it will probably prove profitable, but if it is grown extensively the market will soon be glutted, for it is too small to be profitably used for any purpose save as a dessert fruit."

Horticultural Notes.

NEVER despair in the war against weeds. A plant of purslane, turned root side up on a large stone exposed to the sun, was found at the end of a week not dead, to be sure, but evidently discouraged.

BOTH currant and gooseberry bushes are best set in November or any time after the frost has killed the leaves. They start so very early in the spring that it is almost impossible to plough the land and set them in season, and besides we are usually very busy in spring with other work.

MESSRS. DUNNING, of Toronto, has the largest peach orchard in Canada. It includes 70 acres and 11,000 trees, and is in the township of Stamford, which includes also the village of Niagara Falls. The price per basket here varies from 75 cents to \$3, and wheat growing and stock raising cannot compete with the returns of the peach orchard.

The Huron (Ont.) *Signal* says: The pear blight is cutting the pear trees down to the heart in this section. Scarcely an orchard is free from visitation. The twig blight on apple trees also prevails, and the young wood is sustaining great injury. Rhode Island Greenings are suffering most severely from the latter cause.

To send cuttings of plants by mail. Wrap the cutting in damp moss or cotton, put around this rather tightly some oiled paper; to prepare this take strong light paper, dampen it with linseed oil and when dry it is ready to use. Put the cuttings in a small die. Pictus and Multicolor like the bright rays of the sun, but most of the other varieties do best in partial shade. When fine specimens are wanted, a light, rich soil, well drained, suits them best. A mixture of sand, leaf mould, and well rotted manure in equal portions, has always given good results."

but said he would not deal in inferior kinds. He sends to market the best and assorted berries, gives heaping measure, and can always obtain the highest price. He thinks the Monarch of the West a poor berry, especially when fully ripe. The best berry is the Duncan; but it is not prolific, and costs fully twice as much to raise as the Crescent seedling.

Prof. Beal said the fruit raisers were doing well to put their names on the boxes, and it would be a good plan to designate the quality in the same way.

Mrs. D. L. Case gave her experience in canning fruit. The fruit should be rare, ripe, and fresh. Fruit from the market or brought from a distance will not keep as well as that taken fresh from the garden. She steams her fruit instead of boiling. She likes to put sugar on her strawberries and let them stand over night before canning. This hardens the berries. She does not heat the jar, but stands a knife in it, and the hot fruit will not break it. She believes drying fruit by improved processes will yet supersede canning.

Mrs. Emery said a glass jar will not be broken by the hot fruit if stood on a wet cloth.

Mr. Mann said sour fruit well sweetened will keep better than sweet fruit.

Mr. Stebbins showed some Israella grapes nearly ripe—August 13.

The programme for the September meeting is: on arrangement of fruits at fairs, by Geo. W. Parks; on exhibitions at fairs, by L. B. Baker; on judges at fairs, by Prof. Beal; on arrangement of flowers, by Robert Mann.

The Coleus.

J. H. Pearson, in the Iowa *Homestead*, makes mention of one of our best foliage plants as follows: "During the past few years, the attention of all flower lovers has been called to the Coleus as a superior bedding and house-plant, and the demand has been so great that our many plant dealers have given much time and thought to the production of new and valuable varieties, and it seems from the many new and beautiful sorts we now have, that their labors have been crowned with success. Only a few years ago a bed of this plant was an uncommon sight; now, most every lawn is decorated by a bed of ribbon line of them during summer, and the window garden and conservatory are more beautiful by their presence during the long, cold, and dreary winter months. The new sorts which have been introduced in the past two or three years, are marvels of beauty, and are certainly all that the grower can wish for. Two new styles have come under my observation; one with fringed, deeply serrated leaves, and the other, tri-color, with foliage composed of many colors beautifully blended. Of the former, Pictus and Multicolor were the first to be brought to public notice, and were sold at prices that were far beyond the means of most flower cultivators. On rather dry soil, and planted where they can get the full benefit of the sun, they are beauties. The tri-color varieties are much more delicate in appearance, and are to be had in great diversity of colors, but so many so closely resemble each other, that they are hardly worthy of distinction. Among them are the Charm, yellow tinged with bronzy scarlet, and stained with black brown; Chas. Darwin, veined and mottled with pink, sulphur and olive green; Charter Oak, deeply serrated oak leaf edged, mottled with various shades of green and white; Exquisite, brilliant violet carmine, center shading to rose, green margin; Hiawatha, orange yellow, and crimson, serrated margin; Multicolor, distinct from all others. It is many colored, crimson, rose, with shades of red finely blended, extra fine; Pictus, marbled yellow, maroon and crimson; Red Cloud, rich crimson, evenly marmorated with blackish brown, narrow green margin; Superbissima, blackish maroon, with a brilliant purplish band through the center, and a great many others, but space will not permit me to describe them in this letter. They are very easily and rapidly increased by cuttings, which with proper care, will root in from three to five days. The Coleus is very sensitive to moisture, and likes a dry atmosphere and rather dry soil, they make the best of window plants when not given too much water, which invariably causes them to damp off and die. Pictus and Multicolor like the bright rays of the sun, but most of the other varieties do best in partial shade. When fine specimens are wanted, a light, rich soil, well drained, suits them best. A mixture of sand, leaf mould, and well rotted manure in equal portions, has always given good results."

REPORTS FROM NEW YORK CITY state that the strawberry season there was very abundant in good fruit, the supply being equal to the enormous demand in the city, and for shipment to other places. Berries were this year sent to the West Indies in refrigerators, and many persons are of the opinion that the time will soon come when they will be shipped across the Atlantic. Prices ruled low throughout the season, and growers received poor returns for the labor of production.

THE *Canadian Horticulturist* says that the Wilson retains its place as the leading market berry in the Canadian as well as American markets, and that it has been so extensively planted, that at Toronto, during the season for this variety, the fruit retailed at seven cents a basket, and at St. Catharines' as low as four cents. The *Horticulturist* thinks it would be advisable to plant more largely of those varieties which ripen either before or after the Wilson, and thus avoid the rush and consequent low prices when the Wilson comes in.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Country Gentleman* says that his experience leads him to believe that the first point of importance in growing strawberries is choosing the proper varieties. For home use an entirely different selection would be necessary. It is unfortunate that this is true, especially for the consumers of the fruit, but I have found it so. The average strawberry eater knows and cares nothing for the variety, if they are strawberries. It is true, size and appearance are something in his eyes, but the price is the uppermost point considered without regard to quality. I have found that to make a prospect variety that will yield large crops with little expense for cultivation. Such kinds, as a rule, are deficient in quality, size, flavor or appearance; yet as little stress is laid on these points, such sorts are most profitable to cultivate.

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Apiarian.

Importing Queens.

Mr. D. A. Jones thus describes his method of shipping Cyprian queens, in the *Canadian Farmer*:

"It is a very difficult matter to import them to this country. The colonies I bought in Palestine I had sent down to the coast, and then forwarded by steamer to Cyprus. There they were transferred from the cylinders into movable frame hives. I then made a box about 4x5x6 inches out of pine lumber. I put a screen on the bottom and one on the top, each about three inches square, to let the air pass through. In one end of the box I fixed a bottle filled with water, and having a cork through which a cutting was made for a wick. Through this cutting I drew a cotton wick, and by capillary attraction this wick is kept wet with water and the bees drink and then eat some granulated sugar, which I fastened upon the other end of the box by pouring it in hot and allowing it to cool. Between the bottle and the sugar I had a comb with a little syrup in. There was a queen and from 160 to 300 bees in the box. I had a crate made to hold 27 of these boxes, and they separated from each other about an inch and a half, so that a current of air always passed around every box. I have some bees that were kept six weeks in that way, and during the whole time they had but one chance to fly, and that was when I arrived at London. Some of the bees appeared to need this, and others did not. The water was very bad, and I have given instructions that in future consignments the water should be boiled before being put into the bottle; this will purify it."

Bees in a Statue.

A German paper, the *Bienen Vater*, says: "In the town of Wernestein, Upper Austria, there has stood upon a very high stone base, from time immemorial (a life size) statue of a madonna, constructed of clay. Quite a long time the supposition had gained ground that within it was a well regulated and rich colony of bees. But no one seemed inclined to disturb the little honey gatherers, within their singular asylum. A few days ago workmen commenced to renovate the old and venerable statue, to save it from ruin, and first they had to search for the abode of the bees. How great was their surprise when they found the entire hollow space within filled with the richest of comb honey. Two large water tubs full of honey were taken from this statue. A tavern-keeper who undertook to perform this job of removing the honey received such treatment from the angry bees that he had to go to bed immediately. Now, people remembered that this colony had sent out three swarms last fall, of which two were captured, and the third went to the woods. The bees had made the statue their home for over seven years; from this one can judge of the wealth of honey found."

Which Are the Best Bees.

To this question the editor of the *American Bee Journal* replies: "We yet consider the better strains of Italians the best bees in this country, and that they will be the source from which will be bred the 'coming bee.' They possess so many desirable points of superiority that it will be a difficult matter to supersede them with any of the newer races, about which there is much difference of opinion among careful and observing apiarists. We have not sufficiently tested any of them to hazard a positive opinion from personal knowledge. With our present limited knowledge, and the absence of well authenticated proof of superiority in other races, we would dislike advising any apiarist who now possesses a good strain of Italians, to make a change; but, rather, to make their improvements in the pasturage."

THE FEROCITY OF CYPRIAN BEES.—C. A. Abbott, of the *British Bee Journal*, says on this subject: "We are sorry we cannot confirm the good character for gentleness given to the Cyprians. Such character came with them when they were exhibited at the Crystal Palace Show, and those present, when they were handled on that occasion, were so impressed with their ferocity that their 'purity' was doubted, and reference made to the authorities at the British Museum. Since then we have had considerable experience with these bees, having received some direct from Cyprus, and they have invariably proved most fightable; the Syrians may be put in

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The Michigan Farmer

State Journal of Agriculture.

DETROIT, TUESDAY, AUGUST 23, 1901.

WHEAT.

The receipts of wheat in this market the past week have been 211,901 bu., while the shipments were 123,875 bu. The visible supply of this grain on Aug. 13 was 17,405,009 bu., against 14,170,091 bu. at the corresponding date in 1890. This shows an increase in the amount in sight the previous week of 3,235 bu. The deliveries at seaboard ports for the week were 2,293,114 bu., against 2,595,342 bu. the previous week, and 3,010,791 bu. the corresponding week in 1890. The export clearances for Europe for the week were 1,429,546 bu., against 2,085,097 bu. the previous week, and for the last eight weeks, 10,940,666 bu., against 24,383,241 bu. for the corresponding eight weeks in 1890. It will be seen from a comparison of the export movement with that of last year, that the shipments abroad are much smaller, while the demand from abroad has been more pressing, as shown by the continued rise of prices in the English markets. This shows that the rise in prices on this side of the Atlantic is a legitimate one so far, and based on the probable supply and demand during the coming wheat year. It is well that the rise in price was inaugurated thus early in the crop year, or European operators would have secured all of its advantages, while the wheat growers of this country would have, in many instances, been compelled to sell their wheat at less than its true value. The N. Y. Produce Exchange Weekly, always very conservative, and generally on the "bear" side of the market, says in its last issue:

"Expectations regarding the output of our wheat crop, as well as that of France, Spain, Italy and England, which were entertained early in the season, have not been realized; and the latest accounts indicate European wants, though not as large as last season, will be very large."

And this statement is more borne out by the result of the harvest in all the wheat growing countries of Europe, except in the solitary instance of Russia. Neither Australia, the East Indies, or Egypt will have as much wheat for export this season as last, and the new crop will fall into bare granaries in every country that imports wheat. The United States this year fix the price of wheat, and not, as usual, the markets of Great Britain. This will be so because our surplus for export will be small, and all we have to spare will be wanted. The short crop will also make farmers very conservative about parting with their grain, and it will take high prices to draw it out of their granaries. The fact is that this season's crop will not pay them as well as \$1.50 per bushel as last year's did at \$1 per bushel. If, therefore, Europe wants wheat, she will have to raise her bids.

The past week has been one of unusual excitement in the wheat markets all over the country. In Chicago, especially, speculation was rampant, and the fluctuations in prices very great. Our local market was also excited, and transactions in futures ran up to 2,471,000 bushels, while only 392 cars of spot were sold. Spot wheat on Tuesday last was quoted at \$1.26 1/2 for No. 1 white, and \$1.24 1/2 for No. 2 do. On Saturday it closed at \$1.33 for No. 1 white and \$1.39 for No. 2 do.

The following table exhibits the daily closing prices of wheat from August 1 to August 22:

	White No. 1	No. 2	No. 2
Aug. 1	1.26 1/2	1.24 1/2	1.22 1/2
" 2	1.26 1/2	1.24 1/2	1.22 1/2
" 3	1.26 1/2	1.24 1/2	1.22 1/2
" 4	1.26 1/2	1.24 1/2	1.22 1/2
" 5	1.26 1/2	1.24 1/2	1.22 1/2
" 6	1.26 1/2	1.24 1/2	1.22 1/2
" 7	1.26 1/2	1.24 1/2	1.22 1/2
" 8	1.26 1/2	1.24 1/2	1.22 1/2
" 9	1.26 1/2	1.24 1/2	1.22 1/2
" 10	1.26 1/2	1.24 1/2	1.22 1/2
" 11	1.26 1/2	1.24 1/2	1.22 1/2
" 12	1.26 1/2	1.24 1/2	1.22 1/2
" 13	1.26 1/2	1.24 1/2	1.22 1/2
" 14	1.26 1/2	1.24 1/2	1.22 1/2
" 15	1.26 1/2	1.24 1/2	1.22 1/2
" 16	1.26 1/2	1.24 1/2	1.22 1/2
" 17	1.26 1/2	1.24 1/2	1.22 1/2
" 18	1.26 1/2	1.24 1/2	1.22 1/2
" 19	1.26 1/2	1.24 1/2	1.22 1/2
" 20	1.26 1/2	1.24 1/2	1.22 1/2
" 21	1.26 1/2	1.24 1/2	1.22 1/2
" 22	1.26 1/2	1.24 1/2	1.22 1/2

It will be noted that spot wheat has advanced fully 8c per bu. during the week. Yesterday, however, the market opened weaker, and both spot and futures declined rapidly. Chicago was in about the same condition, and a decline of 2 to 5c per bu. was established there. No. 1 white closed here at \$1.29 1/2, a loss of 3 1/2c since Saturday. But this is only what was to be expected, as such a big advance always has its reaction, and the position of wheat is too well established for the state of affairs to last more than a day or two.

Futures have been more active than spot wheat, and fluctuations more marked. The following statement shows the prices of futures yesterday as compared with those of Monday of last week:

As the latest from the European harvest
fields we give the following from Mr. James
Faird, an eminent authority on agricultur-
al statistics:

REMINISCENCE OF SMALL SISTERS.

A youth and a maid on a lonely veranda
Were taking a "paleo Platonic" meander,
An anchorite he, and all well agree
They never delight in a sweet osculation,
But anchorites some times must have a vacation,
And then they indulge in their own inclination.

He murmured, "I start on the morrow for Montana,"
He sighed, and his eyes sought the eyes of his Anna,
Her eyes were so blue, so dear to him too,
That what could a poor human anchorite do?
I ask, gentle reader, this question of you,
(Unless you're a cynic you'd have but one view.)

So, breathing devotion, he bent his head over,
For it dawned on his mind that he'd "it upon clover."

His eyes answered back, "Look out for a snuck,"
And—no, tho' I wish I could say that he kissed her,
I have to record that she had a small sister,
Who "bobbed up serenely" just then, so he missed her.

—Harold Orinson.

Cruise of a Whaler in the Arctic Regions.

A dispatch from St. John's, N. F., dated August 15, gives the following history of the cruise of a whaler, and the experience of her crew in the Arctic regions the past winter:

After a prolonged voyage, extending over 16 months, amid wintry seas, the whaler Abbot Lawrence, of New Bedford, was towed into the harbor of St. John's, yesterday.

The vessel was in an almost wrecked condition. Her cut water was gone, her stem split and shattered, her deck loosened and crushed upward from the main beams, her foretop-gallantmast gone, and her hull, very leaky.

The Abbot Lawrence wintered the past season at Marble Island, on the northwest side of Hudson Bay. From early January till the 1st of March the winter was of the most rigorous and unrelenting character. Down as far north as Cape Chidley, the minimum reading on the thermometer, according to the Fahrenheit standard, during those two long, sunless months, was 18 degrees below zero, while the maximum fell as low as 75 degrees, showing for the season an average intensity of frost represented by 48 degrees below zero. During the winter and early spring seasons whales were abundant and several large herds of seals appeared from time to time in the watery stretches that here and there broke and diversified the vast ice plains.

Owing to the enormous quantity of impenetrable ice-packs that had formed in the bay, the whales could hardly move a solitary ship's length, and, as a natural and inevitable consequence, the fishing season of the New Bedford fishermen has proved this year an almost barren failure.

The captain of the Lawrence describes the number of whales seen during the regular fishing season as far in excess of any former experience of his, and attributes the signal failure of the fishing this year to the persistent presence of ice all through the season when the fish can be captured with anything like moderate success.

As showing the intensity of the cold at other points, we copy the following dispatch to a London, England, paper from a correspondent on the steamer Alliance, Norway, dated August 12: "Both here and in Iceland the past winter was the severest known since the year 1690. The hills about here are still covered with snow, which should be gone long ago."

The Good-Natured Man.

The first among these ever-present friends of ours, because always the most welcome, is the good-natured man. We meet him everywhere. He is so jolly and happy, so comfortable looking, that even the horses seem to smile when he steps aboard the street car.

His face is always—nearly always—broad and round, and so is his body; but whether he laughs because he is fat, or grows fat because he laughs, is hard to tell. He looks so very comfortable and well at ease that he actually makes the rest of us uneasy with envy, unless we happen to be tolerably good-natured ourselves. His clothes seem to have grown upon him, so well do they fit every turn and twist of his body. He has a pleasant word to say to the conductor as he pays his fare—a word that kills an hour of the conductor's hard work, and makes him feel pleasant all morning.

As he buys his paper he makes even the newsboy feel something like a man. His face all this time is shining like a lighthouse, lighting up all the car and fairly warming it.

There are plenty of these men, but not as many as there ought to be. It is easy always to guess what kind of a home they come from.

There was no snarling and growling over the breakfast table; no children scolded and made unhappy; no quarrel with a sour-tempered wife. It was a cheery, comfortable, easy-chair sort of home; these men, somehow, most of all ways have them. And when this good-natured gentleman that we meet this morning, that we meet every morning, and everywhere, reaches his office, we may be sure that his clerks will feel just as easy and pleasant as when he was absent. It is pretty sure, too, to be a comfortable office, with soft-cushioned chairs; it is reasonably certain to be visited in the course of the day by more beggars than one, who have not gone away empty-handed.

He is not in such a hurry ever, but he can stop long enough to point out streets to any stranger who asks him. He is as warm as a beam of sunshine; and, as he leaves the car and disappears in the crowd, there naturally comes to mind the familiar health that such as he have drunk so often—"Here's luck, old boy."

Wolves in France.

Some parts in France are still infested by wolves. An exchange says: "Every now and then in French journals there are paragraphs inserted telling of wolves not only killing stock, but attacking people, and French sporting prints abound with such wolfish items. A recent report on wolves issued by the French authorities estimates the number of these predaceous animals contained within the French frontiers to be 5,000, and that every year they inflict a damage of not less than 50,000,000 francs. These wolves are concentrated in a few districts—Lorraine, Dauphine, and the Pyrenees. During last winter German Lorraine had its wolves, and the authorities paid a handsome sum for their heads. But a 100 years ago in France wolves were counted by the thousands, and even in 1798 as many as 6,478 wolves were killed in the 12 months. One of the curious reasons why wolves have not been exterminated years ago in France was because the killing of them devolved on a privileged class designated as loupveteriers. This office of wolf-hunter dated as far back as the time of Charlemagne, and in time the post of 'loupveterier' was sold at a high price, so that during the reign of Charles VI. it was forbidden that any one not a gentleman should kill a wolf. These wolf-slayers had certain privileges, and could quarter themselves on a village, exact food and lodgings from the people, and even insist on the peasants taking part in the battue without pay. In 1775 Louis XIV. had his loupveteriers, but abolished rewards for killing wolves. During the revolution wolf-killing became fashionable sport, but it really did seem as if in certain portions of France these animals were preserved by the gentlemen sportsmen, just as in India, it is stated, tigers are more or less cared for by the pleasure of killing them. To-day the commission on wolves abolishes the 'loupveterie' and establish once more rewards for wolf-killing, and under exceptional circumstances the mayor of a village has the right to organize a battue and call on trackers. Perhaps next year some of our own people, tired of the Maine woods and the Adirondacks, might take their Winchester or Sharps and distinguish themselves at wolf-hunting in Lorraine or in the Pyrenees.

The Life of a Newsboy.

"I'm stuck with all these papers. Won't you please please buy one?" The speaker was a bright-eyed boy whose age, judging from his size, might be guessed as not more than 10 years. Still, even under the light of a street lamp, lines of premature age could be seen upon his pinched features. His attire was that of the street Arab—pantalons sustained by one suspender, a torn woolen shirt and a brimless hat.

"What keeps you out so late?" "I would have been abed hours ago only I lost a dollar and thirty-five cents, all the money I had earned during the day, and I could not go home without some money, so I had to buy a new lot of papers and go on selling."

"I suppose you lost your money pitching pennies?" "Not much," the gamin responded, with traces of injured innocence in his tone. "You don't catch me gambling. I've stood and watched the boys pitching pennies, and I made up my mind that nobody but them what's got plenty of money ought to gamble. I could not afford to lose a cent. So you don't see me gambling. I don't even want to know how."

"How much money can you earn a day?" "That depends on the luck. I generally manage to take about a dollar home with me every night. You see I've got a mother and four young brothers to look after. It takes all I can earn to keep them going. It was good times just after the President was shot. I made nearly two dollars one day."

"Does not your mother do anything to help support the family?" "Not much. Sometimes I have to get up in the morning and get the breakfast for the kids before I go to work. They are a pile of trouble to me, and it takes all that we can do to keep them at school. After school hours they go out and sell papers. They can't make much, but every little helps. We manage to keep them at school, and they'll know how good that is when they get as old as I am. I had no chance to go to school."

"You know how to read and count, don't you?" "Oh! I can read and write and count better than they can now, but I taught myself. What I learned was by hearing them going over their lessons. That is, I learned to read that way. As soon as I got a start the rest of it came easy."

"I think I saw you at Mr. Child's dinner on the Fourth of July. Did you enjoy it?" "You bet I did. A boy stole my ticket before we got on the train and I came near getting left, but the gray-whiskered gentleman who bossed the excursion made it all right. Then I got a seat at the table alongside the

feller that stole my ticket, and I gobbled his cake to get square with him. You bet I wasn't going to get left. We were having a first rate time and had just got to the strawberry ice-cream when the news came that the President was dead and the afternoon papers were getting out extras. I just took one spoonful of ice-cream, made sure of my car ticket and got down town as quick as I could. It was business with me, and I scooped in a dollar and a half. It ain't often that you get such a chance to make money on the Fourth."

"What do you expect to do for a living when you get older?"

"If it wasn't for the kids I'd go into a printing-office and work my way up there. They pay boys so little that I can't afford to do that until the youngsters are better able to look out for themselves. In a year or two I'll be able to fix that up."—Philadelphia Press.

Esthetic.

In a new novel there is a rich scene in which Mona, the heroine, visits for the first time a lady relative who has adopted with ardor the notions of the esthetic school; and in it are some choice descriptions of the effect produced on the unsophisticated but clever young Irish girl by the fantastic things she sees and hears. The lady's chamber is furnished and arranged with a studied ugliness which to its mistress, Lady Lillias, is 'simply perfection,' and to Mona is a reminder of her peasant life.

"The floor is shining with sand, rushes having palled on Lady Lillias. Mona is quite pleased. All is new, which in itself is a pleasure to her, and the sanded floor carries her back on the instant to the old parlor at home, which was their 'best' at the farm."

"This is nicer than anything," she says, turning in a state of childish enthusiasm to Lady Lillias. "It's just like the floor in my uncle's house at home."

"Ah! Indeed! How interesting!" says Lady Lillias, rousing into something that very nearly borders on animation. "I did not think there was in England another room like this."

"Nothing in England, perhaps."

When I spoke I was thinking of Ireland," says Mona.

"Yes? With calm surprise. 'I—I have heard of Ireland of course. Indeed, I regard the older accounts of it as very deserving of thought; but I had no idea the more elevated aspirations of modern times had spread so far. So this room reminds you of—your uncle's?'"

"Your uncle, then?—looking at Mona—'is beyond question an earnest student of our faith.'"

"A—student?" says Mona, in a degree puzzled.

"Yes. A disciple, a searcher after truth," goes on Lady Lillias, in her Noah's Ark tone. "By a student I mean one who studies and arrives at perfection—in time."

"I don't quite know," says Mona, slowly, "but what Uncle Brian principally studies is—pigs!"

"Pigs!" repeats Lady Lillias, plainly taken aback.

"Yes; pigs," says Mona, sweetly.

"Forgive me that I showed surprise. Your uncle is more advanced than I had supposed. He is right. Why should a pig be less lovely than a stag? Nature in its entirety can know no blemish. The fault lies with us. We are creatures of habit; we have chosen to regard the innocent pig as a type of ugliness for generations, and now find it difficult to see any beauty in it."

"Well, there isn't much, is there?" says Mona, pleasantly.

"No doubt education and a careful study of the animal in question might betray much to us," says Lady Lillias. "We object to the uncovered hide of the pig and to his small eyes; but can they not see as well as those of the fawn or the delicate stag who fondle all day on our knees? It is unjust that one animal should be treated with less regard than another."

"But you couldn't fondle a pig on your knees," says Mona, who is growing every minute more and more mixed.

"No, no; but it should be treated with courtesy. * * * Yes, I really think there is loveliness in a pig when surrounded by its offspring. I have seen them once or twice, and I think the little pigs—the—"

"Bonuvs," says Mona, mildly, going back naturally to the Irish term for those interesting babies.

"Eh?" says Lady Lillias.

"Bonuvs," repeats Mona, a little louder.

"Oh, is that their name?—a pretty one, too—if—er—somewhat difficult," says Lady Lillias, courteously. "Well, as I was saying, in spite of their tails they really are quite pretty. * * * You must come again very soon to see me, says she to Mona, and then goes with her all along the halls and passages, and actually stands upon the door steps until they drive away. And Mona kisses hands gaily to her as they turn the corner of the avenue, and then tells Geoffrey that she thinks he has been very hard on Lady Lillias, because, though she is plainly quite mad, poor thing, there is certainly nothing to be disliked about her."

A MARKED difference between the foreign trade of England and that of the United States, is that the former country is importing largely the necessities of life, and raw materials, while our imports consist largely of luxuries.

VARIETIES.

AN OLD SETTLER'S STORY.—The boys had been telling a few fish, turtle and snake stories, to which he listened very attentively. When they had all finished; old "mossy" gave a hitch or two and unlimbered. "Wall, boys, I never have doubted any sort o' huntin' story since my leetle 'turtles' scarped down on the bottoms." The boys all looked inquiringly and he proceeded. "I was pokin' round down that one day last year, when I came across the dundest old-lookin' turtle I ever seen. I cut a stick to measure the depth of the moss on his back and accidentally scarped off a hunk on it, when I seen some letters. So I scraped it all off and that in big letters was writ 'B. C.' followed by the figures '567.' Wall, I stood up kinder faint-like, and tuk my hand off on him to sorter rub my old head, when he fetched a flop to git away and the tank a bit and turned clean over, when I'll be 'dogned,' if that wasn't printed in the biggest kind o' capitals, just ahind his forelegs, 'Adam,' and down a little further, nigh his right hind leg (in the same style that they put the name of the town on dog collars), was printed in smaller type, 'Paradise.'"
Forest and Stream.

DURING the siege of Nashville a Confederate battery placed upon a hill was seriously annoying a part of Pap Thomas' line. Riding up to Colonel James Brownlow the old man said: "Colonel Brownlow, I want those guns, and I want them bad," at the same time pointing with his sword toward the offending battery. Drawing his sword and stepping out in front of his line Colonel Brownlow stepped in front of his regiment and said: "Men, the old man says he wants them guns, and says he wants them bad!" Everybody was silent for a moment, and then a six footer in the ranks sung out: "Boys, if old Pap wants those guns he oughter have them. Let's all chip in and buy them for him, for he looks mighty unhappy up that way." A perfect storm of laughter swept along the line, and then the boys started up for the guns and got them for the old man, though many a poor fellow who started for them never got back again.

DAY before yesterday old Col. McSpilkins met Gilhooly. Col. McSpilkins raises fine stock—chickens and the like. He said to Gilhooly:

"I want you to come over to my place and see my pure Spanish roosters I've just imported. I want your candid opinion about them."

"I'll be glad to come over and see them," replied Gilhooly.

"Yes," continued McSpilkins, "I want you to see them. I showed them to Gus De Smith, and the infernal scoundrel said they were only half-breeds, so I kicked him off the place. I'll just carve anybody's head in if he says they are not full breeds. Come over this afternoon, Gilhooly, and tell me what you think of them."

THEY were sitting on the back steps keeping mosquitoes at a distance with the ill-flavored fumes of nicotine soaked clay pipes, and talking on the all absorbing topic of the day.

"I don't 'pose you'll believe it, but it's a fact that when I was down ter Norfolk 'n '63 a shell burst right in front o' me, and the contents lodged right plum in my stomach, 'n I'm alive now."

"Same thing happened to me down on the wharf day before yesterday."

The two friends gazed at each other, as if trying to see which was the biggest liar. They were both telling the truth for this once. They had indulged in Virginia oysters "on the half."

SHELLEY tells an amusing story of the influence that language "hard to be understood" exercises on the vulgar mind. Walking near Covent Garden he accidentally found an Irish navvy, who being in a quarrelsome mood seemed inclined to attack the poet. A crowd of ragged sympathizers began to gather, when Shelley, calmly facing them, deliberately pronounced, "I have put my hand into the hamper, I have looked on the sacred barley, I have eaten out."

"I am well pleased, I have said, 'Knox' and 'I is finished.' The effect was magical; the astonished Irishman fell back; his friends began to question him, 'What barley?' 'Where's the hamper?' 'What have you been drinking?' and Shelley walked away unmolested.

THEY were sitting with their heels on the piazza railing, and puffing the smoke of cigarettes into the evening air. "Issay, Jack," suddenly remarked the friend, "I know a grand good investment. Sure to pay 15 per cent. It's—"

"I don't care for any investment," replied the other, "thank you," was the indifferent reply. "Ah, then you must have made hit with old Fatpurses' daughter?"

"Not at all. But I'm figuring out something that I can manufacture for a cent and sell for a dollar. That gets away with investments or daughters either." "Great head," said his friend, and they smoked on in silence.

TOO MANY POST HOLES.—Men are quite apt to judge the world by their own contracted surroundings. Not long ago a prominent Carson man started for home at two o'clock in the morning quite drunk, and his path chanced to strike a line where 16 post-holes had been dug. He managed to step consecutively into 13, and sitting down in despair concluded to go no farther.

"Wasser use of try'n, to (hic) walk in a world that's all holes!"

He informed a policeman, who found him a couple of hours later, that a New York company had come to Nevada and sunk thousands of artesian wells.

DR. LOBING, the new Commissioner of Agriculture, is the son of a clergyman who lived at North Andover, Mass. The story was told that he and his brother were gaunt boys. Their father sent them one day to an adjacent cattle show where some fat hogs to exhibit. The boys were rather proud of the many compliments paid to the hogs, until a farmer came along and said to an acquaintance: "Mighty nice hogs those of Parson Lobing's; but why don't he feed his boys more and his hogs less?"

"Pa," quoth Sammie to his sire, "why don't you go out West?" "Why do you ask, my boy?" "Because Bill Higgins' father went and he struck a banana."

A bonanza, you mean, Sammie."

"Well, what's the difference?"

"Why, when people strike a bonanza it sets them up, and when they strike a banana it sets them down, and very emphatically, too."

Chaff.

The higher you are lifted by the remarks of a flatterer, the flatter you feel when you come down to the truth again.

There is said a charming lady, with a naïve expression, her face lit up by the smile of a bonny case of chinaware, "that is my brick-bat cabinet."

A doctor went out for a day's hunting, and on coming home complained that he hadn't killed anything. "That's because you did not attend to your legitimate business," said his wife.

It is said that an army worm recently traveled to Boston, where it met a young lady, who looked at it through her eye-glass and called it by its Latin name, whereupon it immediately died.

"Rosalia" wrote to an editor, asking how to "fire a plaque." The hard hatred which replied that if the plaque was like a great many he had seen the quickest and cheapest plan would be to "fire" it out of the window.

"Who was the first into the breach?" asked Prof. Stearns, when the class in history was up. "The patch," said the new smart boy. But the Professor marked him one minute, and said no; the hole was in before the patch.

"I am a self-made man," said a native of Stoughton the other day to a New York gentleman, with whom he had been driving a sharp bargain. "Glad to hear you say so," responded the New Yorker, who had been worsted in the trade. "For it relieves the Lord of a great responsibility."

A subtle distinction: Jones (who is of an inquiring mind) "Ain't you getting tired of hearing people say, 'That is the beautiful Miss Belzize'?" "Oh, no, I'm getting tired of hearing people say, 'Is that the beautiful Miss Belzize?'"

Strange Impertinence.—Pastor: "Yes, Mrs. Brown. Taking into consideration the fact that the Smiths hardly ever pay their rent, it is strangely bad to throw out their part to sing so loudly, and waste such unctious into their prayers." Mrs. Brown: "Quite too terribly shocking."

Something for Nothing.—Young lady: "And you really mean to say that at times you don't have enough to eat. Why, I always thought that poor people in the country could get eggs, bacon, milk and vegetables for nothing!" Country woman: "Only three things we get for nothing. Miss—air, water, and the parson's advice!"

The Household.

"TONIC."

With Thanks for "Soothing Syrup."

BY A. L. L.

Friend, did you ever chance to pick From out a brood one downy chick.

And when its frightened peep was heard Note motions of the mother bird? Blustering and bustling all around, With drooping wings raking the ground, With ruffled feathers, outstretched neck, Her bill prepared your eyes to peck;

Stands first on this foot, then on that, With anxious cluck or scared "ca-dat."

Now at your feet she'll make a dash, Then flutter round you like a flash; Zigzag, across, direct, oblique, With quivering muscles, threatening beak, Each movement shows her perturbation, As well as grim determination.

There are some ladies who, with pen, Cut many capers like this hen;

If a pet hobby you should touch, I'll venture you will say as much.

"I've such experience of it, I say, The facts, in brief, I'd like to state.

One of our Household chances to say "Don't iron and bake the self-same day."

"You'd something burn beside the wood, To your great sorrow if you should."

I differed with my Household friend, Offered a motion to amend.

"To bake our bread on ironing day, Our other bakings as we may."

Thus uttered a meal-time decree, And freshly bakes as we require.

Alack! I had picked up a chicken, And the doughty mother hen,

With each nerve and muscle quivering Pitches at me with her pen,

And my friend, Mrs. Precision, Shares the lightning of her eye,

Shares with me the "Soothing Syrup," Mised for us by E. L. Nye.

First, we'll mix the compound. It is not a very mouth-watering.

On the surface it looks peppery, But beneath the mind 'twill soothe,

"Do n' be afraid or troubled," (Surely that sounds very well),

Least does Mrs. C. ever balk, Should some one's ailments balk.

She has six mighty men, all warriors, She has four and six mouths to feed,

With all these around her table, She will all that baking need;

How she battles for her Clover, Lauds her judgment to the skies,

Vows 'twas not her "plan" that failed her, But the "blow" and "lazy" cries.

Now she pecks at Mrs. Precision, Her laugh was a goodly grin,

With another cackling flutter, Measures it as "mighty thin."

Next "our plan." Now in our faces Must the raging bliddy go,

Shall not be forever "sticking," With us in "eternal doing."

Too much "staleness" baking "freshness" Then she fudges for a spree;

Stamps around our "Soothing Syrup," Coo: "Good Lord! feed me!"

Hear her cur-r-r, she's got her chicken, She has put all's feet to flight;

See her cronies gathering round her, Crown her victor of the fight.

Well, we're glad she's got her chicken, Lay her rumped feathers smooth,

With Mrs. Clover, of the "Syrup," Take a dose their nerves to soothe.

We are soothed. Let Mrs. Clover Bake from white to set of sun,

Feed her men-of-war with dainties, If her ironing's never done.

Still with "staleness" we'll bake "freshness" With the same stove, boil and fry;

Sometimes still the same old story, Of our Household biddy, E. L. Nye.

Thanks for the "Syrup" Sister Nye, Its good effects none can deny;

The virtues of my "Tonic" try, I'm sure 'twill to your case apply.

"DA CAPO."

A. L. L. believes that the hot weather and the discussion of warm topics has developed the fact that the "head feminine" has a temper. No doubt about it. I wouldn't give a brass button for a woman of the "meek as Moses" order; they are too "goody-goody" to be of any real value in a promiscuous world.

Seriously, in reference to this "concentration of energy" business, the ironing and baking the same day question, it strikes me that every woman ought to give enough thought to her work to know whether she can combine the two with ease and profit, or not. It is not possible to lay down arbitrary laws for the ordering of a household. No two families were ever exactly alike, no two women ever managed their work in the same fashion, and even were it possible, there are too many varying outside influences, often necessitating rapid changes of plan, for a fixed programme, like the excellent (on paper) schedules of cook-books and treatises on Housewifery, and I hold that the easiest housekeeping and the best

managed home is that in which the daily routine is most flexible, and allowed to bend itself to the exigencies of the case. A house in which "everything goes by clockwork," as we sometimes hear it said, is apt to be a mighty uncomfortable place to stay. Any innovation on established rule is like "stopping the clock," and the offender feels painfully sure of having thrown the whole domestic machinery out of gear. The housekeeping should serve the family, not the family the housekeeping.

When I was admiral and rear guard of the kitchen brigade, I found I could not use flatirons and baking tins the same day without getting both mentally and physically uncomfortable, in short, I generally got somewhat unbalanced in temper about the time the last cookie was in a state to be eaten and the last fruit fluted. I believe it as much a Christian duty to avoid what incites to ill temper as to subdue angry passions when aroused, therefore, I ironed generally on Monday afternoons and devoted the whole of Tuesday forenoon to the oven and the flour barrel, and a general "tidying up" which left the premises in perfect order. The saving of fuel was never considered, the woodbox was always full.

But it would be unwise, if not impossible, for a woman with a larger family and more cares to wash and iron the same day, especially as a churn full of cream generally reposed in a cool bath in the cellar, awaiting attention as soon as the white flag of surrender floated from the clothe-line. The strength should not be overtaxed, for physical and mental weakness is sure to follow undue effort. Every housekeeper can, if she will but take thought, help herself to many leisure moments by judicious planning of her duties, but that planning, in my humble opinion, must be by herself, with special reference to her own needs, to the size and circumstances of her family, and to her own health and strength.

FARM WORK AND FLOWERS.

I have not been silent on the subjects discussed in the Household the past few months for lack of interest, far from it, for being one of the same busy, bustling farmers' wives, those letters have been of the deepest interest to me.

I have always disliked the idea of spending the most of my time at housework, and so have had a habit of trying frequently to accomplish the feat of "baking and ironing" the same day, and other like experiments, and so have a little more time to spare, but although it may do for a while, Nature is sure to warn us with languor and unstrung nerves that double burdens will surely be resented. While we are so thankful to see the work on the farm accomplished with so much less outlay of strength, and in so much less time than formerly, having machinery for almost all the different departments of our outdoor work, it would be gratifying to see some greater improvements indoors than an egg-whip or a ring pot cleaner. Being of a very hopeful, sanguine disposition, I feel quite sure of seeing a different state of things, and Daisy (and the rest of us) shall have what she requires conceded, and farm life shall no longer be the reverse of what it might and should be, viz., the most free, happy and healthy life on earth for man, woman or child. I have many a plan in my mind by which this object could

The Adulteration of Sugar.

In England as well as in this country the subject of food adulteration is attracting uncommon attention, and legislation has been called upon to assist in protecting the innocent consumer, upon whom countless frauds have been committed. Many of the staple articles of food, such as milk, butter, and flour were found by a recent analysis to contain an average of over 15 per centum of adulteration. In some cases the foreign matter was found to be merely harmless, but in many more cases the adulterants were noxious and highly injurious to health.

The most extensive adulterations practiced in this country are those which affect a prime necessity of rich and poor alike—sugar. It is a fact not widely known that the sugar interest of the United States ranks first in importance and extent of all the departments of commerce, and of the entire imports into the States one-sixth in bulk and value is sugar.

These broad facts indicate the vastness of the sugar consumption, and the fact that sugar enters largely into nearly all forms of infants' food that are used as substitutes for their mothers' milk is a cogent reason why dangerous adulteration of sugar should be prevented.

All laws that have been devised prove practically inoperative so far as protecting the consumer who buys in small quantities, for though the retailer who makes a business of adulterating sugar may be required to label his packages "New Process," or even name the deleterious substances with which pure sugar is debased, still the consumer rarely reads small print, or knows of the adulteration, and is unable to examine it closely. The principal substance used in the debasement of sugar is starch made from corn, commonly known as glucose, which although not so harmful as many other substances with which sugar is adulterated, is still comparatively worthless in saccharine power, and, therefore, fraudulent when offered as sugar.

But the danger of putting into the delicate stomachs of infants, sugar that is contaminated with muriatic acid, muric acid, or other harmful substances, cannot be exaggerated, and the use of "New Process" sugars should be discouraged by all reputable dealers, and with greater emphasis by consumers who demand pure sugar. The most extensive sugar refiners in the world are Messrs. Havemeyer & Elder, and it is a satisfaction to be able to state that every package of sugar sent out from their refineries (which in extent of sugar capacity is not inferior to Brooklyn, E. D.) contains a guarantee that it is absolutely pure. The wise consumer will not need to be told that it is better economy to buy pure sugar or syrup than that which has been reduced in strength.

Of course the safest way to secure pure sugar is to purchase an original package, and at the extensive refineries we have named half barrels are put up as well as barrels, and contain the guarantee to which all adulterations are subject. In 1878, in a pamphlet published by the Havemeyer family, the purchaser who displays the greatest wisdom is the one who relies on the reputation of a great name as a guarantee of the excellence of an article of which he is comparatively ignorant, and an affidavit issued from the great refineries of the Havemeyers is as certain a guarantee of the purity of sugar as is obtainable. It is an interesting fact to note that the guarantee of the Havemeyers is in German, and that of their rivals, the New Yorks, is in English.

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The Salt Industry.
A dispatch from Washington says that a report upon the salt manufacture of the United States, prepared by O. L. Rowland, special agent for the chemical industry of the census bureau, gives some interesting statistics in relation to this article. It shows a large increase of production of salt in the past 20 years. The entire production in 1860 was 12,277,298 bushels, in 1870, 17,006,105, and in 1880, 20,800,208 bushels. In 1880 the State of New York furnished 7,521,335, or 39 per cent. of the entire production, while Michigan furnished but .03 per cent. Twenty years later Michigan outstripped New York and produced 12,425,988 bushels, an amount almost equal to the production of all the States in 1860, and 41 per cent. of the supply of 1880, New York contributing not quite 30 per cent. of the aggregate production. The average depth of the Michigan wells is 881 feet, while those of New York are but 274 feet, and the strength of the brine in Michigan is 31.4 degrees salometer, while New York brine is but 28 degrees. The Virginia wells are of the same depth, but even New York, being but 283 feet, with a brine 28 degrees in strength. Ohio laborers under the disadvantage of deep wells 903 feet, with brine of but 284 degrees strength. Kentucky borers 500 feet for brine of 24 degrees. Pennsylvania 884 feet with brine of 23 degrees. Nevada finds brine at 12 degrees at 150 feet. Utah apparently possesses greater facilities for salt manufacture from her great lake with brine at the surface and secured in strength only to that of Michigan, which is but 24 degrees stronger. The product of Utah in 1880 was 433,800 bushels and in 1870, 1,950 bushels; in 1880 none. Of \$23,230 capital invested in this enterprise, New York has \$609,285, Michigan \$2,147,300 or 54 per cent. of the aggregate capital by two States.

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Dried Apples.—Almost nominal; a few are held in speculators' hands and occasional small orders are filled at about 7c for quarters. No export fruit is moving.

Grapes.—Live seedlings sell at \$1.00; Concord, \$8 per stand.

Melons.—Fresh water melons, \$1.75/18 per 100; nutmegs scarce at \$4.00/5.

Onions.—The market is pretty well supplied at about \$4.50 per bushel.

Pears.—Common descriptions are being freely offered at \$3.00/4.50 per bushel or at \$1.25/1.50 per bushel; Bartlett, \$5.00/6 per bushel.

Plums.—Damsons and Green Gages are in market at the rate of \$5.00/6 per bushel; supplies are light as yet.

Peaches.—Receipts are light, but they are about all the market requires at prices prevalent. White descriptions are quoted at \$4.00/5 per bushel; yellow do. \$3.00/4.

Wholesale Receipts.—Receipts are light, and for fruit prices are well sustained at about \$4.50/5.00 per bushel.

Provisions.—The market is again higher for all grades of pork, and very firm. Lard is a shade higher, and also lard and shoulders. Mess beef is lower. Quotations in this market are as follows:

Mess..... \$19.50
Family mess..... 19.75
Clear mess..... 20.00
Lard in tierces, per lb..... 12
Lard in kegs, per lb..... 12 1/2
Shoulders, per lb..... 11 1/2
Choice bacon, per lb..... 11 1/2
Extra mess beef, per lb..... 12 1/2
Tallow, per lb..... 10 1/2
Dried beef, per lb..... 14

Hides.—Prices of hides in this market are steady at the following quotations:

Green City..... \$5.00
Green City..... 5.00
Cured..... 5.00
Dry Flint..... 18
Green kip..... 18
Dried kip..... 18
Green calf-skins..... 11
Dried calf-skins..... 11
Dried goat-skins..... 11
Dried sheep-skins..... 11
Dried horse-skins..... 11
Bulls, steers and scrubby hides 1/2 off.

Monday.—Live at \$14; three at \$15 and \$16; two at \$17; one at \$18; \$15.00, \$16.00 and \$17.00; four at \$17.50 and \$18; two at \$19; one at \$20; \$18.00, \$19.00 and \$20.00; five at \$18.50, \$19.50 and \$20.50; three at \$19.50, \$20.50 and \$21.50; two at \$20.50, \$21.50 and \$22.50; one at \$21.50, \$22.50 and \$23.50; \$19.00, \$20.00 and \$21.00; \$20.00, \$21.00 and \$22.00; \$21.00, \$22.00 and \$23.00; \$22.00, \$23.00 and \$24.00; \$23.00, \$24.00 and \$25.00; \$24.00, \$25.00 and \$26.00; \$25.00, \$26.00 and \$27.00; \$26.00, \$27.00 and \$28.00; \$27.00, \$28.00 and \$29.00; \$28.00, \$29.00 and \$30.00; \$29.00, \$30.00 and \$31.00; \$30.00, \$31.00 and \$32.00; \$31.00, \$32.00 and \$33.00; \$32.00, \$33.00 and \$34.00; \$33.00, \$34.00 and \$35.00; \$34.00, \$35.00 and \$36.00; \$35.00, \$36.00 and \$37.00; \$36.00, \$37.00 and \$38.00; \$37.00, \$38.00 and \$39.00; \$38.00, \$39.00 and \$40.00; \$39.00, \$40.00 and \$41.00; \$40.00, \$41.00 and \$42.00; \$41.00, \$42.00 and \$43.00; 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